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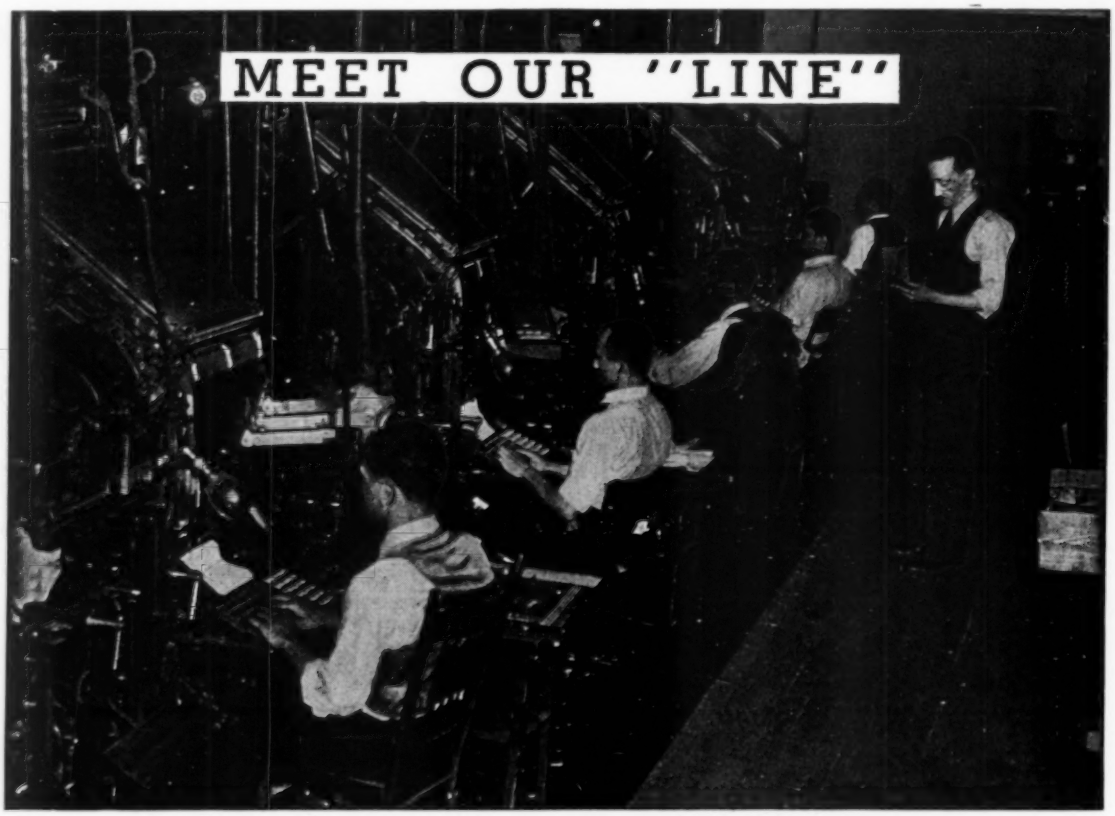

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College and School News

Berean School held its 42nd annual commencement on May 31, when Rev. Shelby Brooks of Lincoln University (Pa.) faculty preached the baccalaureate sermon. The commencement address was delivered by A. Philip Randolph, International President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Graduating exercises of The Palmer Memorial Institute Junior and Senior High School Departments were held on May 17, when Dr. Vernon T. Johns of Lynchburg, Va., was the speaker.

New Board members of Hampton Institute are Wendell Willkie, Republican leader, and Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.

Hampton has adopted a wartime physical fitness program on a three-day-a-week basis for the four-year period.

Don A. Davis Sr., comptroller of Hampton was re-elected head of the Association of Business Officers in Schools for Negroes at the organization's fourth annual meeting, May 7, 8 and 9 at Bennett College.

French and Spanish have been added to the Institute's curriculum.

Hampton has started a program of training hundreds of young men and women for the dairy industry to meet wartime and postwar nutritional needs.

On June 8 the Wilberforce University NYA War Production and Training Center was dedicated. It is jointly sponsored by the NYA and the College of Education and Industrial Arts to train youth for employment in war industries. Young women will also be trained.

Dr. Channing H. Tobias of the YMCA National Council delivered the 1942 commencement address at Morehouse College on June 2.

New officers of the Morehouse student body for 1942–43 are: James Holloway, Washington, D. C., president; Vernon McClean, Brooklyn, N. Y., vice-president; Clyde Phillips, Chicago,

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Ill., secretary; and Clement Barksdale, Winchester, Mass., assistant secretary.

Charles Edward Maxey, a 1942 graduate, won a Rosenwald Fellowship to study at Harvard University School of Business Administration, the first Morehouse student to be so honored.

The Federal Government has approved a plan for setting up courses in arc welding and machine shopwork at **Langston University** and allocated over $7,200 for equipment.

Class work in Langston's summer school began June 3. The session closes July 24.

Robert B. House, dean of administration of the University of North Carolina, delivered the address at the 75th commencement at **St. Augustine's College** on May 27. B.A. and B.S. degrees were conferred on 46 candidates.

Colorful commencement programs were carried out at **Howard University** from May 24 to June 5 when Mrs. Pearl S. Buck delivered the commencement address.

The Hilltop, student publication was awarded "All-American" honors by the Associated Collegiate Press this year, being rated as one of the best student newspapers in the country in the monthly classification. Thomas J. Gunn is editor-in-chief.

The 75th academic year closed at **Morgan State College** with commencement exercises on June 1. The address was delivered by Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander of Philadelphia. The baccalaureate sermon was delivered on May 31 by Bishop Monroe H. Davis of the A.M.E. Church. The Bachelor's degree was conferred upon 85 candidates, 60 women and 25 men.

George H. Spaulding, a chemistry teacher, received the Ph.D. degree in his field at the University of Pennsylvania on June 2. A Morgan graduate, he also earned his Master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania.

William W. Proctor, mathematics instructor, received his Master of Arts degree at the University of Pennsylvania on the same date.

On May 19, Rev. John J. Seabrook, Director of the Morgan Christian Center and a teacher of philosophy, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity at Gammon Theological Seminary.

Dr. Merze Tate, Dean of Women and associate professor of political science is the author of "The Disarmament Illusion" just published by the Macmillan Company, under the auspices of the

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Winfred O. Bryson, instructor in the Commerce department, has a General Education Board Fellowship grant to study at the Wharton School of Finance, University of Penna., in 1942-43.

Dr. Floyd R. Banks (Physics) has been invited to join the research staff in the Radiation Laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the duration of the emergency.

Dr. John Huntley Dupre, professor of history at the University of Kentucky delivered the commencement address at **Spelman College** on June 3. The baccalaureate sermon was delivered by Dr. M. Ashby Jones, noted minister.

The thousands of delegates to the National Conference of Social Work at New Orleans on May 14, were told by Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of **Tuskegee Institute**: "I have been impressed, in the last few weeks, with the utter futility of much of the farming now in progress in many of the states in the deep South".

Commencement speaker at **Atlanta University** on June 1, was Dr. Richard R. Wright, noted Philadelphia banker

(*Continued on page 238*)

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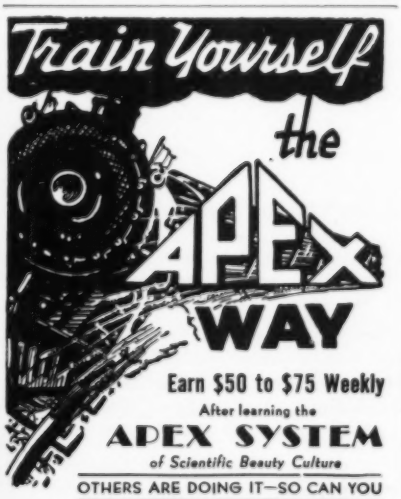

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Volume 49, No. 7 *Whole No. 379*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910 and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15¢ a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

The August issue will be the thirty-first annual education number and will contain news, pictures and statistics on the Negro college graduates of 1942. In the September issue will be inaugurated a new feature, "First Ladies of Colored America," a series of striking photographs and thumbnail biographies of prominent Negro women in all sections of the country.

In one of the early fall issues we expect to carry a collection of new photographs on the Negro in the war effort.

•

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

George Padmore is well known to readers of The Crisis for his articles on the British West Indies and color line problems throughout the world. He lives in London.

William Pickens, formerly director of branches for the N. A. A. C. P., widely known writer and lecturer, is now a member of the defense savings staff of the United States Treasury Department, helping in the sale of War bonds and stamps.

Carl Van Vechten needs no introduction to readers of this magazine. When Press Hawkins submitted his story, he lived in New York but letters addressed to him have been returned. We suspect he is in the Army, and if any relative or friend knows of his whereabouts, we would appreciate the information.

•

Editorials

Prejudice First, Victory Second

WE would be delighted to report that in this world war in which race is playing such a part America has put its traditional race prejudice in the background and united all willing and able citizens to battle the Axis powers. Unhappily that is not true. Little sporadic forays against prejudice have been made here and there, but, by and large, Americans are unaware of the tremendous tides moving across the globe. They are determined, come hell, high water, the Nazis, and the Japs, to maintain prejudice as usual, even if victory is endangered.

Item: White members of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, walked out of the Hudson Ordnance plant in Detroit, wholly engaged in production for the Navy, because eight Negro skilled workers were promoted to machine work.

Item: A survey of war industries by the U. S. Bureau of Employment Security showed that out of 282,245 jobs expected to be opened up, 144,583 were barred to Negroes for no reason except color. In war industries deemed to be essential, 37,659 out of 64,859 openings were closed to Negroes. (*See cartoon page 225*)

Item: When white residents of St. Albans, Queens, (N.Y.C.) did not volunteer as Minute Men to solicit pledges, Mrs. Lora Lewis did—and for her pains was refused pledges by white people. Said Roy Richardson, president of the property owners association: "We've got a fight out here and I'm in it right up to my neck. We've got to protect our homes from the Negroes. They want to get into this community and we are doing everything we can to keep them out."

Item: White residents of North Hollywood, Calif., entered violent objection to entertainment of soldiers of a Negro anti-aircraft regiment in the home of one white patriot, even threatening to go to the commanding officer of the regiment.

Item: Negro soldiers in the Savannah, Ga., Army day parade were forced to march *behind* garbage and scrap salvage trucks at the tail end of the parade.

Item: Congressman John Rankin, rabid race-hater from Tupelo, Mississippi, has made two speeches in the House assailing those who want the Red Cross not to segregate Negro blood in its plasma banks, saying "the South" will settle all such matters and settle with all such people.

Item: The Gadsen, Ala., *Times,* objecting editorially to any investigation of employment discrimination against Negroes by the President's committee, calls the latter "snoopers," calls Negroes "Little Sambo," and characterizes the probe as an attempt to force "an intolerable social condition" on the South.

Item: John Temple Graves, II, columnist, widely syndicated in southern daily papers, writes in his home paper, the Birmingham, Ala., *Age-Herald,* that this war time is "no shining opportunity" for Negroes to right all their wrongs, and that they should be content with the *status quo.*

To these might be added many more items indicating clearly, in spite of some of the leadership and some of the pronouncements from Washington, that white America does not intend to give an inch. It is wedded to the *status quo:* second and third class citizenship for Negroes.

The Queens man who is fighting Negroes does not know we have a hell of a lot of Japanese to fight. The ordnance workers have forgotten that under the Nazi plan there are no labor unions. Manufacturers have forgotten that the entire European continent is producing for Hitler. Rankin doesn't know anything. The southern *status quo* newspapers hear about, but don't understand Dunkirk, Crete, Malaya, Singapore, Java, Burma, and Tobruk.

Moreover, they do not understand the 1942 Negro. Let them listen to Mark Ethridge, one of themselves, as he says Negroes "are better educated; they are better organized; they are under friendlier auspices, and they are more aggressive and more demanding than they have ever been before; and, I think, we all ought to learn that."

Aggressive and demanding what? Not, as Virginus Dabney, says, a "war against the whites." Not the defeat of their country and victory for the Axis. Not to take anything from white Americans. But demanding only the rights and privileges and responsibilities enjoyed by other Americans, and guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Let no one pervert this attitude of Negro Americans. We want this war to bring us what world leaders say it will bring to other dominated and under-privileged peoples of the world. In the dignified words of the Negro Masons in convention assembled: "Meanwhile we must not lie. (After declaring for the defeat of the Axis—Ed.) It is a lie to pretend that we are happy about receiving the same sort of treatment from which we are asked to help spare the anti-Axis world. On every proper occasion we should say this without fear and without deceit."

Negro Americans are for victory. They want no part of the Axis New Order, either that in Europe or in Asia. But neither do they want any more of the Order of Gadsen, Ala., and Tupelo, Miss., which places prejudice first and victory second.

Distortion

WESTBROOK PEGLER, in his latest blast at the Negro press, asserted that the daily (white) press was fair to the Negro in handling news of the race. On June 16 in Madison Square Garden, New York City, at least 18,000 Negroes gathered in a meeting advertised and carried out as a protest against racial discrimination. Stories of the meeting were headlined next day as follows: "Rally Fights Jim Crowism"—*PM;* "Negro Rally Hits at Discrimination"—*World Telegram;* "18,000 Negroes at Garden Rally Ask End of Bias"—*Herald Tribune;* and, "Mayor Puts Negro on Housing Board"—*Times.*

Crisis in the British Empire

By George Padmore

British Imperialism, to save the Empire from the Japanese, must grant freedom to subject peoples; but to do that would be to commit hari-kari. What to do?

THE two most heterogeneous political aggregations of peoples in the world, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the British Empire, are both at this moment faced with a life and death struggle for existence. Yet what a challenging difference there is in their respective positions in this hour of supreme crisis!

On the one hand, we see the U.S.S.R., a union of free peoples, with a combined population of 200 millions, comprising almost 200 races, of many creeds and colors, forming a monolithic phalanx before the enemy, inspired with an enthusiastic fanaticism which is the admiration of friend and foe alike. These comrades-in-arms, these Russians and Ukranians and Cossacks, Turkmans and Tajiks, Kabaks and Kalmuks, Bashkirs and Tartars, Buriat-Mongols and other descendants of Jenghis Khan's hordes, know for what they are fighting and love what they know.

Contrast this with the situation in the Far East, where events have most graphically exposed the inherent weakness of imperialism. According to the Singapore correspondent of that venerable organ of British imperialism, *The Times*, "After nearly 120 years of British rule the vast majority of Asiatics were not sufficiently interested in this rule to take any steps to insure its continuance."[1] What a damning indictment of British colonial administration!

Why is it that these Asiatic peoples after enjoying more than a century of British culture, civilization, "trusteeship," and the rest, exhibit such ingratitude for the gifts the British have brought them as to desert their "trustees" and benefactors at the time when they are most in need of their support? The answer to this question is to be found in the economic and social conditions prevailing in these countries.

Malaya

Malaya represented the wealthiest unit in the British empire. With 70 per cent of the world's tin and more than 50 per cent of the world's rubber, it was a veritable El Dorado for predatory capitalism; the dream of the City of London come true. The alien conqueror came into this rich land and dispossessed the natives of their homes. He did not even give the Malayans the Bible in return for their lands, for they remained Mohammedans. The nabobs, having taken possession of the best areas of the country, turned to India and China, whence they brought indentured labor into Malaya to develop their lands and mines. This they did because foreign coolie labor was even cheaper than the indigenous kind, so that the Malayans not only lost their lands, but at the same time were deprived even of a means of livelihood. Those people who believe that imperialism is a philanthropic institution creating jobs for the backward races must be able to perceive the denial of their faith in the story of Malaya.

The pukka sahibs were in Malaya to line their pockets. These "birds of passage" were feathering their nests as fast as they possibly could. Even now they hope to return and develop resources at the point where they were forced to leave the Japanese in charge. That is the reason why, while they duly admired at a great distance the scorched earth policy operating in the Soviet Union, they left things in order for Japanese interim control. They look forward to a speedy return and a renewal of the "good old times."

Wages in Malaya averaged twenty-five cents to thirty-seven cents a day for men and sixteen to eighteen cents for women. These were the ruling rates in factories, mines and plantations, and the legal maximum working day was fixed at nine hours. During December, 1940, workers on an estate of the Dunlop rubber company demanded higher wages, and went on strike when they were refused. Three strikers were shot dead and others were wounded when military forces were called in to quell the workers. At Selangor, during May, 1941, seven thousand workers went on strike, and five of them were killed in the clashes which followed with the police.[1]

These labor disturbances were ascribed to "subversive propaganda," questions in Parliament drawing the reply that there were no economic justification for them. Perhaps Members of Parliament would like to work for twenty-five cents to thirty-seven cents a day. At any rate, these were the wages which caused the strikes, and the fact that the trade union law forbade peaceful picketing gave an excuse for the official attacks upon the workers. At the same time extremely handsome profits were being pocketed by the rubber companies.

Not even the semblance of political democracy was enjoyed by the indigenous people. "The Societies Ordinance makes political organizations illegal, and prior to 1940 also made trade unions illegal. Now, as the result of tremendous labor unrest, trade unions are legalized under the Trade Union Enactment in the Straits Settlements, but this enactment seeks merely to bring the unions under the control of the Governor, and it makes all trade union activities—strikes, political activities, etc.—illegal. The Official Secrets Enactment and the Sedition Ordinance give the Governor tremendously wide and vague powers. Under these ordinances persons can be convicted not only for actions but for 'seditious tendencies' and 'purposes detrimental to the interests of the British Empire.'

"The freedom of the press, of publication, of the importation of books, of the showing of films, of meetings, etc., are all severely restricted. In all the Malay States freedom of conscience is infringed by the power of the sultans to compel attendance at the mosques and to declare 'false doctrines' illegal. Everywhere police services are highly developed, particularly political police. Judges are usually colonial service officials. Deportation without trial is very frequent."[1]

One of the moral justifications of imperialism, used particularly by the British, is that European occupation of backward territories will abolish slavery and other kindred practices incompatible with modern standards of conduct. Child slavery, however, flourished in Hongkong and the Malay States. Known as *Mui Tsai*, it fed on the grinding poverty of the people, who were only too glad to receive a few dollars in exchange for the children they could not afford to feed and clothe. The girls, from the very

[1] This sentence was suppressed by *The Times*, but was printed in the *Manchester Guardian* of February 18, 1942. It appears that *The Times* correspondent also writes for the *Guardian*. Incidentally, this shows the kind of censorship which goes on in editorial offices.

[1] Hansard, May 28, 1941.

[1] Lady Simon: *Slavery*—see pp. 96–114.

Acme

A tin mine in Malaya

youngest age (even under 3 years), were as a rule sold into domestic slavery, and very often passed over into brothels. Boys were bought to work in factories and for other kinds of labor.

When he was Secretary of State for Colonies in 1922, Mr. Winston Churchill told Parliament that he desired "to make it clear that both the Governor (of Hongkong, the distributing centre) and I are determined to effect the abolition of the system at the earliest practicable date, and I have indicated to the Governor that I expect the change to be carried out within a year.[1]

This expectation was too optimistic, for Lady Simon, writing in 1929, told that the system still flourished in Hongkong, and on May 29, 1941, Mr. Creech Jones asked the Under-Secretary of State for Colonies "whether steps are being taken by legislative action in the Straits Settlements to prohibit the traffic in boys, who are sold for employment in factories and industries outside the territories, for domestic service and for training in circuses and theatres? Replying to this question, Labour's representative, Mr. George Hall, Colonial Under-Secretary, completely evaded it and talked some drivel about there being a traffic of some extent in boys from China ports to Malaya since the extension of hostilities in the Sino-Japanese conflict.

The Secretary of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, which for some time had concerned itself with this question of *Mui Tsai*, addressed a communication to the Colonial Office on June 17, 1941, in which attention was invited "to the statement in the report of the Governor of the Straits Settlements on the *Mui Tsai* System for the second half of 1939 (Ref. S.C.A. 1003 1939), that there is no legislation in the Straits Settlements to prevent the traffic in boys. The fact is recorded without comment, without any suggestion of its being a hitherto undiscovered omission in the law of the colony, and without any indication of any intention to remedy the law."[2]

According to Mr. Hall's reply to Mr. Creech Jones of the 29th May, 1941, the Governor of the Straits Settlements had decided to take steps to prevent the traffic, but unfortunately for the victims, history did not wait upon the leisurely reforms of pro-consuls. Those people who failed to support Abyssinia against Italian aggression on the ground that slavery still reigned in that country, would doubtless have done better to have looked for the evils within the British Empire. Over a hundred years Britain had been in Malaya, and it had failed to eradicate the evil which had been one of its avowed reasons for taking over imperial rule. Now the Japanese have taken the situation in their hands, and it

[1] Hansard, May 29, 1941.

[2] Anti-Slavery Reporter, October, 1941.

is too much to hope that these perpetrators of horrible outrages in Hongkong will play the role of social reformers in Malaya.

Hongkong

The world was shocked at the revelation of Japanese bestiality in Hongkong, but we must not be under the delusion that this former bastion of British imperialism on the China coast was something of which the British people might be proud.

"On the executive side the Hongkong government is a bureaucratic departmentalism," wrote a correspondent from the colony in May, 1939. "On the legislative side it is an autocracy. In theory the presence of elected and representative members on the Legislative and Executive Councils upholds the principles of democracy. In practice the Chinese members neither know nor care what are the interests of the Chinese community whom they are supposed to represent. They have one aim—to get honors and prestige for themselves—so they vote with the Governor. The European members, when they do oppose, can be outvoted by the heads of departments and the Governor. Not long ago the Chinese Seamen's Union was, quite illegally, closed down, but there was no protest from the Chinese members on the Council.

The statistics for 1936 show in whose interest the colony is ruled. Of annual revenue of approximately $28,000,000, $4,281,000 was presented to the Imperial Government for defense, $2,287,000 went in pensions to retired civil servants, $12,218,000 was paid in Government salaries, and only $182,000 could be found for charitable services."[1]

We hope that when the Japanese have been driven out, this territory will revert to its rightful owners, the Chinese, and become an integral part of the Chinese Republic.

Singapore

At the Singapore headquarters of the British administration, the Governor, the representative of the imperial power, combined in his person the office of High Commissioner, with control over the sultans of the Federated and Unfederated States, who governed the native subjects in these territories. The system of indirect rule was the only contact between the imperial trustees and their native wards. Unfortunately the wards did not recognize any benefits from their trustees.

The Legislative Council of Singapore, the crown colony area, was composed of 13 officials, heads of the various civil departments and 11 members handpicked by the Governor. Only two members were elected, and they represented the European Chambers of Commerce of Singapore and Penang. The Singapore natives, like those on the mainland, had no voice in their own affairs. Surely it is not really surprising that when the crisis came the Governor, Sir Shenton Thomas, was unable to mobilize the common people—Malayans, Chinese, Indian—to withstand the Japanese onslaught. How could a people whose existence had been entirely ignored, presumably because they were considered unfit to participate in the government of the country, suddenly resuscitate themselves, as it were, and assume responsibility in defense of the system which had until then failed to recognize their existence?

These colonial people, exploited, oppressed, victims of color bar practices and theocracy, subjected to the racial arrogance of the British *Herrenvolk,* recognized only the enemy already entrenched in their land. For while colonial intellectuals and socialists have no illusions regarding Japanese imperialism which, despite its demagogic appeal of "Asia for the Asiatics," is most predatory and brutal, it cannot be expected that illiterate native masses should be able to make this differentiation. They have a feeling of *omni ignatum pro magnifico:* the untried master is the best. The word "Britain" to the native colonial peoples, like the word "Russian" to the former subject peoples of Czarism, is synonymous with "oppressor."

"The British had no roots in the people," asserted *The Times* correspondent. But why, we pose, did they have no roots in the people after a hundred years? Because an imperialist power can have no roots in a subject people, except the roots of bayonets. The very nature of imperialism is a negation of fraternal relations between peoples. Its only relationship with the subject people can be that of the rider to the horse: the one on the back of the other. And he who carries the White Man's Burden has to have a strong back.

Tired of carrying this burden, the colonial population of Singapore displayed no enthusiasm when the Japanese attacked the island fortress. "With the exception of certain sections of the Chinese community—some inspired by Free China's struggle for survival, others by Soviet precept and example—the bulk of the Asiatic population remained spectators from start to finish. Their inclination caused acute difficulties in the field of labor. . . . There was no native labor at the docks. Soldiers had to be taken from military duties to load and unload ships."[1]

Being civilized, the people of Britain may argue and debate the political character of the war: Whether it is an inter-imperialist conflict; whether it is a struggle between Fascism and Democracy, or just Good against Evil. To the backward "savages" of Malaya it was simply a fight between two bands of marauders who were overrunning their country; a fight in which they were not concerned except as the prize. Their attitude was "a plague on both camps."

And when all is said and done, what example did the Europeans set for them? While the fate of an empire was being decided on the Malaya peninsula, the pukka sahibs in Singapore were having a good time, declared Lady Brooke-Popham, wife of the Commander-in-Chief, on her return to England. "The majority of civilians," she asserted, "were immersed in a long round of tennis and dancing. I tried to wake them up, but it was hopeless. . . . They were too busy with their social engagements."

In a semi-official book, *The British Colonial Empire,* published about the time of the fall of Singapore, the author assured us that "The wealth of Malaya . . . is laid on secure foundations, and its future, under British administration and protection is equally secure. . . . Malaya is today a contented and peaceful country, and one of the most successful examples of British colonial administration."[1] How these official apologists misled the British people, and how history has given them the lie!

But taking everything as a whole, the pukka sahibs have no legitimate reason for complaint. For over a century they have been living on the fat of the land. Three British mining companies, Tronoh Mines, Southern Tronoh Mines and Sungei Besi Mines published profits this year of phenomenal size.

"Tronoh, with a capital of £300,000, made a net profit after taxation, etc., of £169,196, and paid a dividend of 55 per cent, the profits being well over half of the capital. Southern Tronoh, with a capital of £200,000, made profits on the same basis of £69,762 and paid 30 per cent. Sungei Besi, with a capital of only £144,000, made no less than £95,731 and paid 58⅓ per cent dividend, the profits being two-thirds of the capital. The colossal profits from these and similar undertakings will now be flowing into Japanese coffers instead of back to London. Those are the stakes for which Britain fights!"[2]

These vultures will not even pay taxes to provide for the defense of their properties. A war time bill introducing income

[1] Article on *China under the Union Jack,* in *Empire,* May, 1939.

[1] *The Times,* February 18, 1942.

[1] *The British Colonial Empire,* p. 125. By W. E. Simnett, a former Editor of *Crown Colonist,* official organ of the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

[2] Don Batemen, in *The New Leader,* January 31, 1942.

tax for the first time was passed in February, 1941. Incomes under £576 were exempt. Two per cent was payable on incomes up to £720, increasing to a maximum of 8 per cent on incomes over £3,400. The export tax on rubber was 2½ per cent. The introduction of this income tax nearly caused a revolution among the "patriots." Assuredly, Sir Shenton Thomas could have had no easy time with these "whisky drinking rubber planters and tin miners."

It was the natives of Malaya who paid for the upkeep of Singapore. Out of the taxes squeezed from the peasants the sultans contributed over £20,000,000 towards imperial defense between the last and present wars.[2] And when the enemy struck the natives were left defenseless.

Burma

Even before the war in the Pacific broke out, the Burmese people made their attitude to Britain plainly known through U Saw, at the time Prime Minister of the colony. His claim for Dominion status for the 17 million natives of Burma was categorically rejected by Mr. Churchill and his understudy Mr. Amery, Secretary for India and Burma. "Burma," declared U Saw, "was brought into the war by an edict of the Governor. The elected representatives of the people were not consulted. . . . If Burmese people were convinced that they were fighting for their own freedom as well as for that of the rest of the world, then there can be no question about it—Burma's war effort would be increased fourfold." He made it quite obvious that "There is a small section of Burmese opinion which believes that to aid Britain win the war means to aid Britain to keep us in subjection. . . . There is another section, which, while it cherishes no love for the Japanese, feels that if it is Burma's destiny to remain a subject nation, then it might prefer to be governed by a nation that is of the same blood and of the same religion." U Saw is now held somewhere as a potential enemy of Britain's imperial interests.

U Saw himself did not enjoy any mass backing in Burma. He was a reactionary nationalist, the son of a feudal landowner whom the British officials made use of to combat the growing labor and Socialist movement headed by Dr. Ba Maw, the former Prime Minister. U. Saw was then made Prime Minister. Now his masters have accused him of treachery to them and of making contact with the Japanese. As in Malaya, so in Burma, the British authorities are completely isolated from the native masses. With the progressive leaders in jail and U Saw under arrest, their last link has been severed.

As a result of this isolation, when the Japanese invaded Burma, instead of meeting a hostile population, they were joined by "Free Burmans." Leland Stowe, an American correspondent, describing the activities of the "Free Burmans" declared that their fifth column operations were worse than any that occurred in Norway. "Treachery was discovered among officials of all classes. Burmese guides led the Japanese through the jungle." The correspondent observed "that the most sinister feature of the campaign was the appearance of a Burmese corps comprising fully equipped troops wearing blue uniforms and officered by Japanese."[1] "The complete failure to mobilize native man power to assist in the defense of Malaya, Burma and India is a great loss to Britain," observes a Chungking newspaper. "We hope the British will arm the Burmese masses," it adds.

What a pious hope! Whitehall has refused to free the anti-fascist Burmese leaders, among them U Ba Pe, the Elder Statesman, who represented the Moderates at the Round Table Conference in London in 1929.

When questioned about this recently in the House of Commons, Mr. Amery replied that these progressive leaders were detained "in the interests of 'order and security.'" What mockery! "Order and security" against whom? The Japanese are already in occupation of Rangoon. And where the Mikado's legions pass there is neither "order" nor "security."

It seems that no disaster, however catastrophic, can arouse the Rip Van Winkles of Whitehall. Truly, those whom the gods seek to destroy they first make mad.

India

As we write[1] the Japanese, aided by "Free Burmans," are advancing towards India. There is little need to dilate upon the problem of this "jewel in the Crown of the British Raj." The causes of the present deadlock are too well known. India has for some time been the running sore in the imperial body politic. Only a major operation can now save the situation. Sir Stafford Cripps has been given the task of performing it. It is to be hoped that he will be as successful at "political surgery" as he has proved himself to be in other fields.

Jawarharlal Nehru, who voices India's aspirations, has made the issue quite clear. Addressing a meeting at Delhi on February 10, 1942, he said: "My talks with General Chiang Ka-Shek have given rise to much speculation. Some people think there might be changes in Congress policy towards the war. It is absurd to suggest that he has come to India to interfere in Indian affairs. The old world is crumbling and cannot revive. Our lot may possibly become worse in the new world, as the path of revolution is a path of turmoil, as shown in China. China has had to pay a heavy cost and India will have to pay the same price. Slogans will not create revolution for us."

[1] *Daily Telegraph*, March 21, 1942.

[1] March 19, 1942.

[2] See J. Gunther; *Inside Asia*.

Acme

Rubber plantation workers get 16 to 37 cents a day

Turning from Anglo-Indian relations to the wider international scene, Nehru declared: "I have long dreamt that India and China should hold together in the present and in the future. Japan and Germany present the very worst types of imperialism. We have always said that we would neither have British Imperialism nor any other type of Imperialism, nor Fascism, nor Nazism. Do not fall into that terrible error of thinking that in order to get rid of one we shall ask aid of another and seek aid from outside.

Threat to Madagascar

With the fall of Singapore and Java[1] the barriers to the Indian ocean have been broken down. Ceylon, Britain's premier colony, stands threatened. This island is the only territory in the empire populated by colonial races where universal suffrage is enjoyed, and where there is a fairly democratic constitution —labor's gift. The Governor, however, can veto any measure adopted by the State Council of which he disapproves.

Soon after the outbreak of war in Europe, the Governor of Ceylon ordered the arrest of all Socialist leaders and left-wing M.P.'s, and placed them in internment camps. These men and women (yes, women like Mrs. Selina Pereira, a graduate of London university, are among them), who enjoy the confidence of the masses and can mobilize them to resist invasion, are imprisoned.

A statement issued by the Ceylon Socialist Party "tells how the plantation workers tried to form trade unions to improve their conditions. On the Rangbodde Estate a strike took place and concessions were won. As soon as the laborers were back at work, however, it is alleged that a reign of terror commenced. Fifty to sixty of the leaders were arrested, and a special squad of 40 armed police introduced. It is alleged that, in combination with 'thugs' employed by the planter, they indulged in a systematic beating up of 300 to 400 men and women for three days. Dwellings were looted and it is asserted that atrocities were committed. On the fourth day the entire working population on the plantation fled to N'Elya, a distance of 14 miles. After semi-starvation for 20 days they returned.

"It is alleged that similar occurrences happened on the Wewellhina and Wewessa Estates. It is reported that the workers' lines (rows of huts) were surrounded by police carrying bayoneted rifles and that here, too, a 'terror' ensued. The men fled from the estate and the women were whipped into resuming work.

" 'Today, British Imperialism stands in Ceylon on naked violence and barbarism,' the statement proceeds. 'This rule of naked violence aims at wringing the last cent of profit stained with the blood of the toilers who produce it.'

"The Ceylon Socialist Party occupies an honorable position, and these charges cannot be brushed aside. They demand immediate investigation and action—though it is now probably too late to convince the people of Ceylon that Britain stands for the democracy and freedom which it proclaims."[1]

Ceylon has now become Britain's citadel in the Far East, in the light of the sordid picture just described, a forlorn hope in the event of attack. And if Ceylon should fall into the hands of the Japanese, not only will India be threatened from the sea, but Madagascar will be placed right in their path.[2] The occupation of this island, with or without Vichy's consent, would place the Japanese astride the Allies' supply route which runs around the Cape via the Indian ocean to the Near East. The Japanese would also be in a position to strike at South Africa by way of the Portuguese colony of Mozambique.

At this moment of writing Ceylon holds the key to Eastern and South Africa. Should this bastion fall, Japan may well be encouraged by her Axis partner to invade the Dark Continent. Imperialistic appetites have no limit. Cecil Rhodes once declared: "I would annex the planets if I could." If, then, Japan should attack the African colonies, in view of the existing Colonial Problem which we know to exist there, a post mortem on British imperialism in Africa may become necessary.

Acme

Burning rubber trees in Malaya

Africa

With the war clouds hanging over the Indian ocean and the shores of Africa, Senator J. D. Rheinallt Jones has drawn the attention of the Union Government to the present mood of the people, including the chiefs, the only potential allies of the whites in the case of an invasion. Writing in *Race Relations News*,[1] Senator Jones observes that "There can be no real progress unless the goodwill and entire co-operation of chiefs and people are served. How this is to be done is not yet clear. Meanwhile, the problem is in a difficult stage and is full of dangerous elements. Unfortunately, the natural conservatism of a pastoral people has been stiffened by the anger caused through being pressed into the straight jacket of the Union's territorial segregation policy."

Not only in the Union, but all over Black Africa, the situation is tense. In the South African Protectorate of Basutoland, the national organization of the people, the Lekhotla la Bafo, has been suppressed by an order of the resident commissioner, dated January 3, 1942. Three of its leading members, including Mr. Josiel Lafela, well-known historian of the Basutoland people, have been interned. On the occasion that a question concerning the organization was put in the House of Commons, Mr. J. McGovern, chairman of the Independent Labour Party, asked: "Will the Government consider an approach to the natives in the colonial empire and extend that freedom to them that they are promising to others?"[2] The question was met with

(*Continued on page 236*)

[1] The factors responsible for the collapse of this island were similar to those in Malaya and Singapore. The Dutch had no roots in the people, and therefore did not dare to trust them with arms. Only 50,000 men out of a population of 40 millions, recruited from the upper strata, were armed. The island was conquered within 14 days.

[1] *The New Leader*, March 24, 1942.

[2] Since this was written, Madagascar has been occupied by the British.

[1] *Race Relations News*, Johannesburg, November, 1941. This is the organ of the Institute of Race Relations, an organization which makes available data concerning the Negroes of South Africa which would not be otherwise available.

[2] Hansard, March 17, 1942.

The Democracy of War Savings

By William Pickens

Allowed to participate equally with others in the purchase of U. S. War bonds, Negroes collectively and individually make a whole-hearted response

THE cynic will ask: If the American Negro is given absolute equality in War Taxes and in War Savings, can he not be given a like equality in all other societal matters? And the cynic is right.

But at least there are no race limitations or discriminations in War Savings. A twenty-five dollar U. S. Savings Bond bought by Henry Ford, by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and by any black farmer of the lower counties of Georgia, is always of the same sort in both form and substance: the interest rate is the same, the security is the same, and neither one of these bonds has any personal, racial or class priority over any other. Even the limitation on the quantity that can be bought is the same for all of these gentlemen,—and the real limitation is on Ford and the President: for they are held down to the level of many Negro farmers. As I write, the limit in E-bonds on each of them is $5,000 worth in any year.

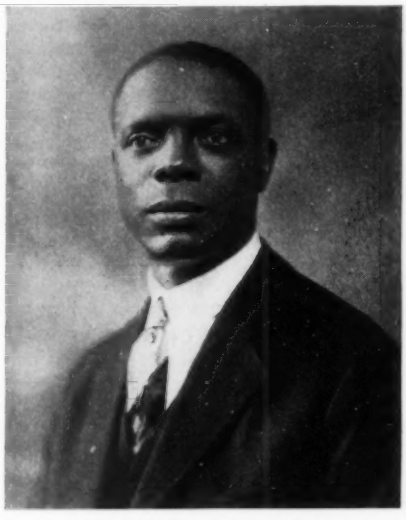
Business men and insurance companies

That is why Negro business men have rallied to the purchase of War Savings: it is the best investment in the best bank in the world, the United States Treasury. Most of these people love their country, but one does not have to love the other fellow in order to take advantage of a good business offer that comes through that other. And hate must be terrible indeed if it is to keep one from dealing with the best bank in his community, let alone the best depository in the world.

That is why a good percentage of the Negro insurance companies have bought F and G Bonds to the full amount that the government will sell to any company in one year, even the Equitable Life Assurance Society,—$50,000 worth. At least half a dozen of these companies bought that amount before the Japanese attacked us, and in 1942 they are starting on a second $50,000. The officers of their national organization have agreed to start pay-roll allotment for bond purchases among all of their numerous employees.

From the beginning of "Defense Savings" up until April 30th, 1942, the totals purchased by these companies as reported to our Treasury office, are as follows:

Atlanta Life Insurance Company	$520,500
The Supreme Camp of the American Woodmen, including locals	211,975
The Pilgrim Health & Life Insurance Co.	110,000
Mammoth Life & Accident Insurance Co.	105,000
Domestic Life & Accident Ins. Co.	100,000
Universal Life Insurance Company	100,000
The Great Lakes Mutual Insurance Company	70,000
Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Inc.	70,000
Douglass Life Insurance Company of Louisiana	53,000
Metropolitan Funeral Systems Ass'n., including employees	52,025
N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company	50,000*
Excelsior Life Insurance Company	50,000
The Afro-American Life Insurance Company	40,000
The Federal Life Insurance Company	33,800
Union Protective Assurance Company	33,000
Golden State Mutual	30,000
United Mutual Benefit Association	27,400
Winston Mutual Life Insurance Company	27,000
Louisiana Industrial Life Insurance Company	25,000
Victory Mutual Life Insurance Company	25,000
Standard Industrial Life Insurance Company	25,000
Guaranty Life Insurance Company	20,000
Virginia Mutual Benefit Life Ins. Co.	15,000
Central Life Insurance Company	15,000
Safety Industrial Life Ins. & Sick Benefit Ass'n	11,000
Jackson Funeral System Association	10,000
Victory Industrial Life Insurance Company	9,000
Good Citizen's Mutual Benefit Association, Inc.	5,000
Richmond Beneficial Life Ins. Company	5,000
Fireside Mutual Insurance Company	3,000
Peoples Insurance Company	1,000
Protective Industrial Life Ins. Co.	575
Southern Life Insurance Company	500



WILLIAM PICKENS

* The North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company has purchased $135,000 worth of War bonds to date.

Organizations and individuals

We can more nearly determine the full amount of Negro insurance Company purchases than of any other, for we have the whole roll of these companies. And we can get at more of the purchases made by other corporations and organizations than those made by individuals and smaller groups of the colored race. The complete absence of any kind of designation or discrimination or classification as to race in these bonds and their records makes it forever impossible to tell the exact amount that the American Negro or any other racial group will purchase. But the investments by organizations are an index of the general interest. Many organizations have purchased amounts under $500, but we list here those incidentally known to us to have purchased $500 or more, since the present savings plan began,—in addition to the insurance concerns mentioned above:

Nearly 1,000 C.I.O. workers, out of which number 450 were Negroes, purchased in Chicago, Illinois	$150,000
Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia	50,000
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, pledged to buy	25,000
Tennessee State College, Nashville, Tennessee	20,000
Sons of Georgia organization, New York, N. Y.	11,500
Ladies' Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver Lodge	10,000
Carpenters' Local Union No. 2039, New Orleans, La.	6,700
Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Martin, New York, N. Y.	3,500
International Longshoreman's Assn. Local No. 854, New Orleans	3,000
Duke Ellington (Orchestra Leader)	3,000
Knights of Peter Claver	2,500
Father Schmodry Council, Knights of Peter Claver, New Orleans	2,300
King Melchezek of the G.U.O. of Nazarites	1,000
Quaker City Lodge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1,000
Negro Soldiers of the 229th Quartermaster Co., Camp Bowie	1,000
Sub-Committee of G.U.O., Philadelphia, Penna.	1,000

(*Continued on page 232*)

The J. W. Johnson Collection at Yale

By Carl Van Vechten

Started by Mr. Van Vechten and named for the late James Weldon Johnson, this collection of Negro arts and letters at New Haven already possesses many rare items

FOR a very long time I pondered, in my own mind, the question of what would be my ultimate disposal of my collection of Negro books, manuscripts, letters, photographs, phonograph records, and music; not a large collection, perhaps, but an extremely interesting and valuable one, since it has been my privilege during the past two decades to know intimately many of the more prominent members of the race. In this quandary, and spurred on by world conditions to arrive at my decision in some haste, I was invited by Bernhard Knollenberg, the librarian of Yale university, to deposit this material in the Yale library. Fortuitously, he employed precisely the right words to convince me that Yale was the place for it: "We haven't any Negro books at all."

It seemed to me then that this Collection of mine could not only be made immediately useful at Yale (the first white college in the North, I believe, to make any determined effort to secure such material) but also might become an active and growing source of propaganda, for no student, hitherto uninformed on the subject, could read these letters, the inscriptions in the books, or even the books themselves, without asking himself, and others, many questions.

There are other advantages connected with New Haven as a depository for research material. It is near New York, Boston, and other cultural centers, and in the very heart of the thickest section of the collegiate world. It is sufficiently close to the largest Negro community on the globe, which itself already boasts one of the most remarkable collections of Negro material, that of Arthur A. Schomburg in the New York Public Library. The new Yale library building offers more elastic space to the collection than can be found in most other college library buildings. Further, the material has been accepted on my own terms and with an enthusiasm from the librarian and his staff which speaks well for the future.

The official title of this gift is The James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of Negro Arts and Letters, founded by Carl Van Vechten. It seemed most appropriate to couple the name of my friend James Weldon Johnson with material of which his advice had been so important an element in its selection. My love and respect for the dead poet actually demanded that I do so. Furthermore, I was frank in hoping that this title would serve to induce others to make valuable additions to the collection. This already has proved to be the case.

Mr. Knollenberg agrees with me that any manuscripts or books written by any one with Negro blood, and the best books about Negroes written by white men, belong in this collection. Further, interesting photographs, rare first editions of music (I wish somebody would give us the St. Louis Blues in this form!) phonograph records, programs of plays or concerts, and especially letters, should find a fitting, permanent resting place here. Incidentally, at some time to be appointed in the not too distant future, the collection will be officially opened with a showing of some of the more interesting material already in hand.

The author's contributions

My own Negro library, which forms the nucleus of the collection, is not rich in the work of the past, although it does contain a first edition of Phillis Wheatley's Poems on Various Subjects, several books by William Wells Brown and Frederick Douglass, and many anti-slavery pamphlets and slave narratives. Beginning, however, with the early twentieth century and continuing to date, it assembles an almost complete accumulation of the literary work of the period, mostly represented in association items, together with a quantity of letters from the authors themselves. Charles W. Chesnutt, for example, has written long autobiographical inscriptions in all his books. Unfortunately, I didn't know Paul Laurence Dunbar, but he is fully represented by first editions, and in one of them is laid a letter from his wife with his autograph enclosed. James Weldon Johnson himself is represented by a complete set of his books, presentation copies of first editions, with long personal inscriptions, for the most part in mint condition in the original dust jackets, by phonograph records, by pamphlets, by clippings, by musical settings of his poems, by photographs, and by a fine series of letters. The gift of the James Weldon Johnson manuscripts is all we need to make this collection the final one!

Authors represented

Among the authors who are solidly represented (often in pamphlet form and by letters as well as by books) on the Yale library shelves, in first editions in superb condition, and for the most part by association items, are the following: Jean Toomer, Wallace Thurman, George Schuyler, Eric Walrond, Zora Neale Hurston, C. L. R. James, Nella Larsen, Sterling Brown, Georgia Douglass Johnson, Claude McKay (including the very rare Constab Ballads) Alain Locke, Rudolph Fisher, William Stanley Braithwaite, W. E. B. DuBois, Arna Bontemps, Richard Wright, Walter White, Booker T. Washington, William Attaway, and Waters E. Turpin.

Langston Hughes, through my own library, and by his own gifts to Yale, is so fully represented here that no other library will ever be able to compete with Yale in this respect. All his books, with personal inscriptions, songs set to his words, inscribed to me, photographs, a quantity of letters, most of his magazine and newspaper appearances, his inclusions in anthologies, translations of his work (into Spanish, French, Yiddish, Russian, Swedish, and German) together with eight large boxes of manuscripts (partly my gift, partly his) are already stored on the shelves at New Haven. Manuscripts of all the several drafts of Not Without Laughter, of many of his poems, of all of his plays, save Mulatto, are in the collection. Countee Cullen is only less fully represented, but by important and unique items. Through separate gifts from Roberta Bosley, Harold Jackman, and myself, we have succeeded in putting together the complete series of manuscripts of The Lost Zoo, in several drafts, beginning with Mr. Cullen's original notes. The typed manuscript of his version of The Medea, containing a Prologue and an Epilogue not included in the published play, together with Mr. Cullen's original manuscripts of this Prologue and Epilogue, written in his own hand, with corrections, in a Paris notebook, are all preserved at Yale for posterity to examine.

The collection contains the published books of W. C. Handy, most of his music, all of it inscribed to me, and a good deal of it in first editions, a great

many letters, photographs, and phonograph records, and several extremely interesting manuscripts, including the full score in parts of an arrangement of The Basement Blues for band. J. Rosamond Johnson is equally fully represented and some of his songs are also signed by his poet brother, James Weldon Johnson. There is a large group of spirituals, arranged by Henry T. Burleigh, inscribed to me, and Mr. Burleigh has also given me for the collection two manuscripts from the cycle, Passionale, with corrections in the hand of James Weldon Johnson who wrote the words. Clarence Cameron White has presented us with the manuscript score of the Prelude to his opera, Ouanga. Another of the more interesting items in this department of the collection is the manuscript orchestral score of William Grant Still's ballet, Sahdji, in which is laid autobiographical comment in longhand by Alain Locke and Bruce Nugent, who collaborated on the scenario for this dance-drama.

There is endless material in books concerning the spirituals and the blues and these are fully represented on records, of which the collection contains an almost complete listing of such singers, on discs now rare, as Bessie and Clara Smith, Paul Robeson, Ethel Waters, Marian Anderson, Dorothy Maynor, and many others are equally well represented in this section.

Photographs

One of the unique features of the collection is a set of photographs of Negroes (already there are eleven boxes with an average of forty photographs in a box) which I have made myself during the past ten years, perhaps the largest group of photographs of notable Negro personalities ever made by one man. A few names of those pictured in these boxes are Cab Calloway, Bricktop, William L. Dawson, Aaron Douglas, Paul Williams, Taylor Gordon, Zora Neale Hurston, Rex Ingram, James Weldon Johnson, Nella Larsen, Rose McClendon (including pictures of her in The Medea of Countee Cullen, although she died too early to create this rôle in the theatre) Claude McKay, Bill Robinson, Ethel Waters, Horace Pippin, Marian Anderson, Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong, Avon Long, Ruby Elzy, Richard Wright, Dean Dixon, Richmond Barthé, Countee Cullen, and a great, great many more.

There are photographs, mostly inscribed, from other lenses in the collection, of James Weldon Johnson, Paul Robeson (including many pictures of Mrs. Robeson), Adelaide Hall, A'Lelia Walker, Josephine Baker, Richard B. Harrison, Charles W. Chesnutt, Nora Holt, and countless others. There is also a group of photographs of celebrated paintings which include Negroes, from the public and private galleries of Europe and America. Further, there are several original paintings, decorations, and prints by Charles Sebree, Zell Ingram, Hale Woodruff, Aaron Douglas, and others.

Books

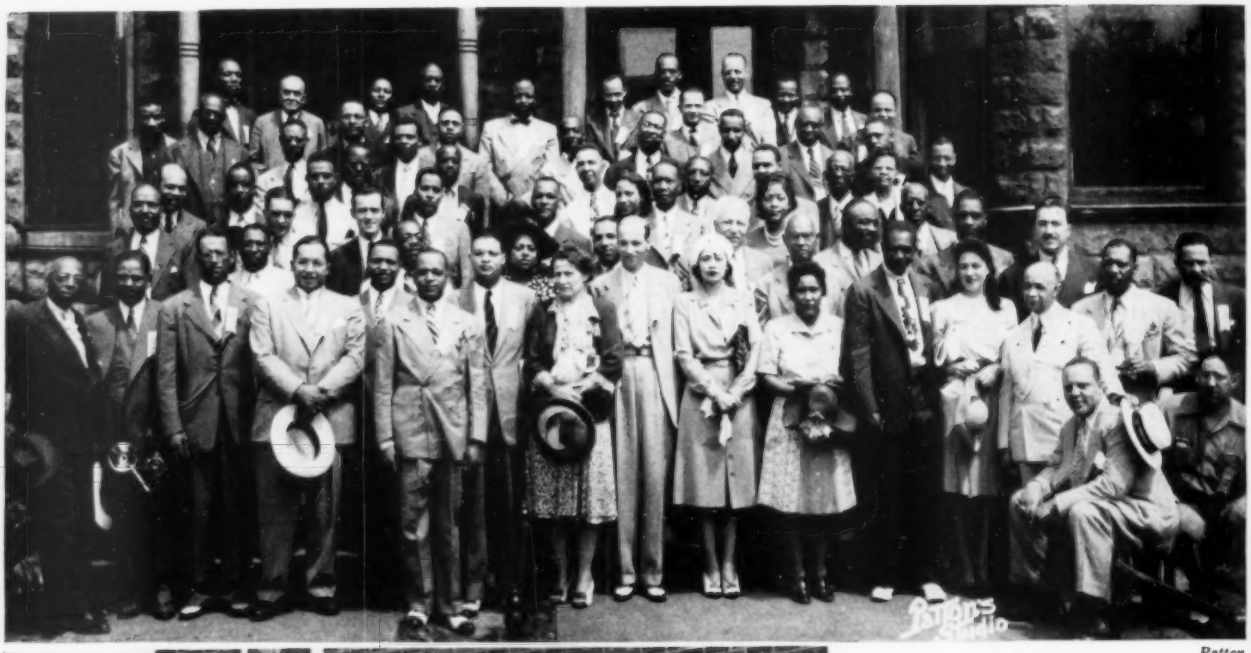
On the shelves at New Haven stand many famous books about Negroes by white authors, including Edward Sheldon's The Nigger, Du Bose Heyward's novel, Mamba's Daughters (accompanied by an inscribed presentation copy of the first edition of the play from Ethel Waters) Leonard Merrick's The Quaint Companions, Dorothy Baker's Young Man with a Horn, W. D. Howell's An Imperative Duty (a most amazing book for the year 1892!) George W. Cable's The Silent South, and The Negro, Gilmore Millen's Sweet Man, the extremely rare first edition of Joel Chandler Harris' Uncle Remus, and other books by Mr. Harris, the Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin, Eugene O'Neill's The Emperor Jones, Ellen Glasgow's Barren Ground and In This Our Life, novels and stories by Julia Peterkin, plays by Paul Green, Willa Cather's Sapphira and the Slave Girl, Vachel Lindsay's The Congo, and a mass of material, which includes the rare Henry-Music, by and about Nancy Cunard. A great many of these books are association items. Further, the manuscripts I possess of my own work concerning the Negro, together with the first appearances of this material, have been given to the collection.

There is a fund of books dealing with sociological subjects and there are many books and pamphlets connected with the Negroes' dealings with Communism and the Catholic church. Boxes are devoted to The Negro in Art, the Negro in Science and Medicine, the Negro in the Theatre, Concert, and Ballet, to general bibliographies of the subject. There are five large boxes devoted exclusively to theatre material, including programs, clippings, and pictures. There are files of several periodicals, of which those of Challenge, Phylon, etc., are complete. The file of Opportunity begins with Volume II; that of THE CRISIS with the year 1925, Volume XXX. We have Volume VIII (1926) complete of The Messenger; the first three numbers of 1925 and the last eight of 1927 are missing. We haven't the other years of this magazine at all. It would be a splendid thing if somebody would make the collection a gift of any of the missing years of these periodicals. Opportunity with only Volume II missing would be the easiest file to complete.

Contributors

I have been amazed and endlessly delighted by the response which the announcement of the founding of the collection has met from Negroes and others who possess Negro material. From the very beginning they have been of the greatest assistance to me in planning additions to the collection. Dorothy Peterson, for instance, has secured for us many interesting volumes by Puerto Rico Negroes, and the second volume of Opportunity, not on my own shelves. She has successfully solicited many gifts from others. Walter White gave me carte blanche to take any books from his personal library not already in the collection. I availed myself literally of this opportunity and confiscated a great many, a number of which are association items. Mr. White has further furnished the James Weldon Johnson collection with a complete set of pamphlets (many written by Mr. Johnson himself) issued by the N.A.A.C.P. from 1912 to date and has been instrumental in securing much material from others. Harold Jackman likewise has permitted me to pillage his library to my heart's content and further has turned over many important letters and manuscripts and has been endlessly and continuously valuable in unearthing other buried treasures. It has already been suggested that Langston Hughes has presented the collection with practically everything he possesses relating to himself or to Negroes in general. Claude McKay has given us the manuscript of Home to Harlem and other material. Arthur Spingarn has given most generously from his own superb Negro library. The Misses Helene Grant and Georgia Washington have presented to the collection the manuscript of Aunt Hagar's Children, an unpublished book by Wallace Thurman, also four pages of the manuscript on which Thurman was writing when he died, and letters and photographs of this writer. Fannie Hurst has given the collection a first edition of Imitation of Life, stills from the picturization of this story, and other material. Dean E. George Payne of New York University has presented us with several fine letters from James Weldon Johnson and Amy Spingarn has given us Langston Hughes's letters to her and letters from James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamond Johnson, and others to Joel Spingarn. Dorothy West has given us the manuscripts of two short stories. Further gifts have been received from Robert C. Weaver, Dr. Louis Wright, Henry W. Greene, and others. Donald G. Wing of the Accessions Department at the Yale library has put the cream on the other gifts by adding to the collection by purchase a fine letter from Toussaint Louverture. I hope we shall be able to announce in the future the acquisition of manuscript material, letters, or photographs of the two Dumas and Pushkin.

(*Continued on page 226*)



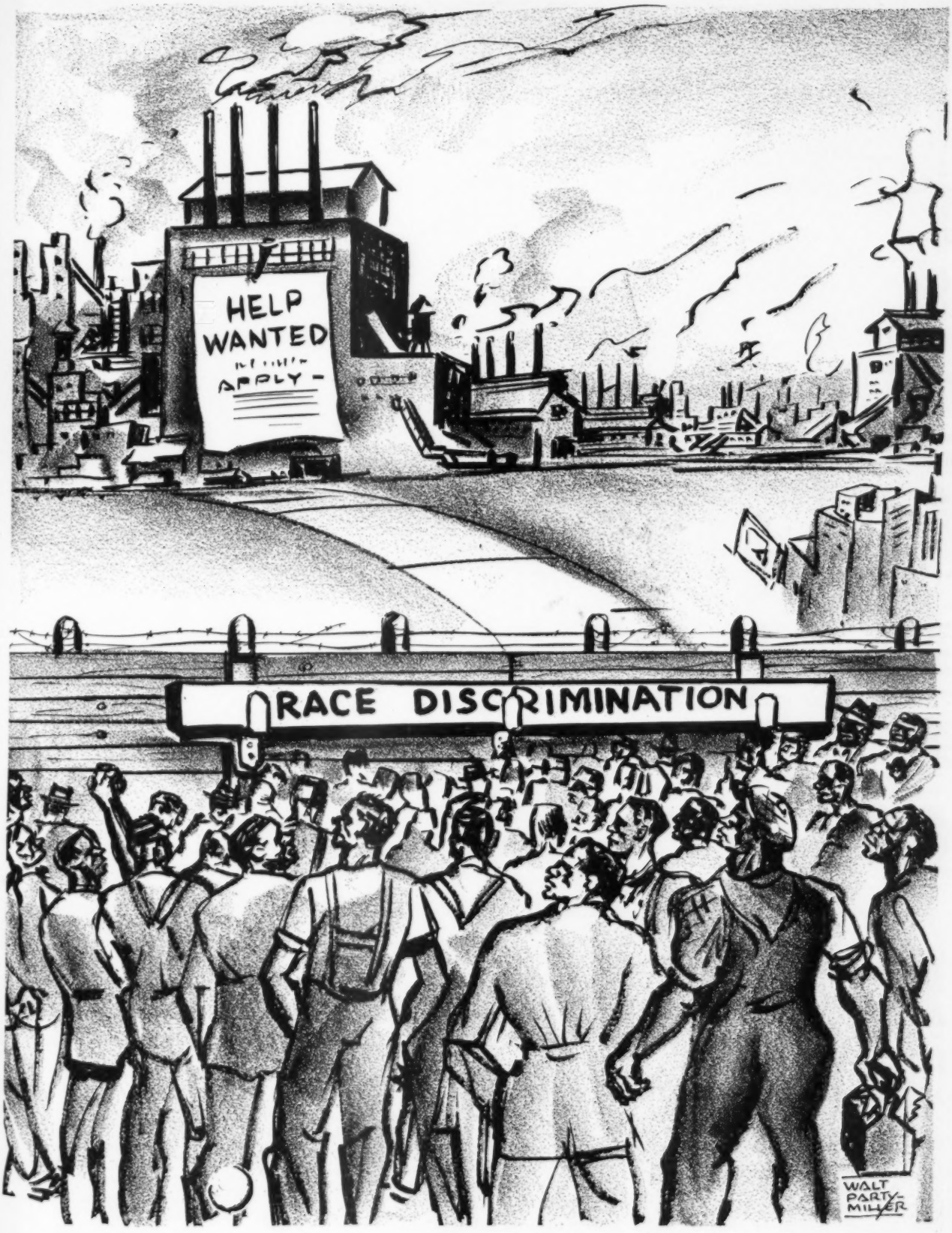
Patton

Above, delegates to the second annual convention of the National Negro Publishers Association in Chicago, Illinois, June 5–6

U.S. Army Signal Corps

Left, nine colored soldiers, the first of their race to enroll in the Armored Force Officer Candidate School at Ft. Knox, Ky., received their commissions early in June as second lieutenants in the Armored Force and were assigned to the infantry. Six of the nine new officers have attended college. Lt. William L. Jones of Cincinnati, Ohio, is a graduate of Fisk university, Nashville, Tenn., and was a teacher in a Cincinnati Vocational School prior to his being called to service as a member of the National Guard. Two of the graduates are members of the Regular Army. The new lieutenants are: William F. Bivens, Carrier Mills, Ill.; Othello Dixon, Marion, Ind.; Henry T. Morgan, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Frederick D. Coleman, Little Rock, Ark.; John H. Eiland, Washington, D. C.; Leon C. Hayes, Boston, Mass.; Theodore E. McClain, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Victor A. Moore, Waukegan, Ill.; William L. Jones, Cincinnati, Ohio

All of the new lieutenants, with the exception of Lt. Othello Dixon, were assigned to the 758th Tank Battalion, a colored unit. Dixon, who was over-age, was sent to the 93rd Division



LIFT THE BAR—BEAT THE AXIS!

USDA photo by Forsythe

These three pretty co-eds at Alabama A & M Institute, Normal, Ala., are doing their part to help reach the farm goals set by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard. They are studying poultry and helping to care for the college flock so that the hens will produce their share of the 50 billion eggs needed for our soldiers, our allies and ourselves. Left to right, Misses Mary Parker, Doris Lowery and Dorothy Harris

Johnson Collection

(*Continued from page* 223)

And I hope to be able to announce more, lots more. Any one who has letters, manuscripts, photographs of prominent Negroes, please be assured they will be welcome and safer and more permanently preserved and of greater service than they would be at home. So will rare books and association copies. So will theatre programs and phonograph records when they are in fine condition and do not duplicate material already in hand. After writing to inquire if it is desired, donors may send material for the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of Negro Arts and Letters to me at 101 Central Park West, New York City, or direct to Bernhard Knollenberg, Librarian, Yale university, New Haven, Connecticut.

"Two Colored Women With the A.E.F."

HUNTON AND JOHNSON—*2nd edition*

The story of the colored soldier in the first world war.

"One cause of bitterness remained and pursued them thru France—the race prejudice of the white Americans. Such is the indictment set forth in "Two Colored Women With the A.E.F."

Current History

"A worthy addition to the valuable works on the world fight."

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

$2.50

THE CRISIS BOOK SHOP

69 Fifth Avenue **New York City**

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

17th Supreme Court Victory: On June 1 the United States supreme court reversed the conviction of William Ward of Mount Pleasant, Texas, on a charge of murder because the principal evidence against Ward was a "confession" secured by means of torture.

Mr. Justice Byrnes read the opinion. "We must conclude that this confession was not free and voluntary," the supreme court held, "but was the product of coercion and duress, that petitioner was no longer able freely to admit or to deny or to refuse to answer and that he was willing to make any statement that the officers wanted him to make.

"The court has set aside convictions based upon confessions extorted from ignorant persons who have been subjected to persistent and protracted questioning, or who have been threatened with mob violence, or who have been unlawfully held incommunicado without advice of friends or counsel, or who have taken at night to lonely and isolated places for questioning. Any one of these grounds would be sufficient for reversal. All of them are found in this case."

Ward was indicted in September, 1939, for the murder of Levi Brown, white. He was first arrested and then released, but later taken into custody, beaten, burned with cigarette butts, driven to six different county jails, held incommunicado and generally terrorized until he signed the so-called confession.

The case was argued on May 4 before the high court by Leon A. Ransom and W. Robert Ming, Jr., members of the NAACP national legal committee. The court relied upon four previous cases which had been argued and won before it by NAACP lawyers. They were Chambers v. Florida, Canty v. Alabama, White v. Texas, and Brown v. Mississippi.

Lily-White United States Agencies: Branch offices of the various departments and agencies of the U. S. government located in New York City are almost lily-white it was charged in June by the NAACP.

In a letter to L. Metcalfe Walling, administrator of the wages and hours division of the U. S. Department of Labor, located at 165 W. 46th Street, the NAACP protested "the apparently deliberate policy . . . of refusing to employ Negro general clerical and stenographic workers in offices located in New York City."

The letter said the Association was informed that no Negro clerical workers are employed in the wages and hours division, which moved hundreds of employes here from Washington and hired more in New York City. It is reported that the wages and hours division has a few colored messengers, one economist and two inspectors.

"This is a matter of the gravest concern to the more than 400,000 Negro residents of New York City who are being asked to buy war bonds and support the war effort 100%," the NAACP letter said. "They have a right to feel discouraged and even bitter if the agencies of their own government located within their own city pursue a practically lily-white employment policy, the exceptions being a few messengers and an inspector or two."

At the NAACP office, it was said that the list of government agencies located in New York covers 19 typewritten pages. With but very few exceptions,

Franklin

Little Klara Davis presenting Mrs. Roosevelt with a bouquet from the Charlotte, N. C., Negro Chamber of Commerce, during her recent visit to that city

the Association said, these offices are lily-white, and Negro applicants for clerical positions are having the greatest difficulty in getting even an interview.

An all-out campaign will be conducted against discrimination by the NAACP, which is demanding an investigation and action by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Radio Musicians: A whole new field of opportunity for Negro musicians is now open as a result of a commitment by the National Broadcasting Company and the Blue Network to hire qualified Negro musicians who apply for work.

Both networks went on record as opposing discriminatory hiring after a conference, May 26, with John Hammond, NAACP board member and publisher of the magazine *Music and Rythm;* Mark Woods, president of the Blue Network; Samuel Chotzinoff, musical advisor for NBC; Dr. Frank Black, musical director for NBC; Joe Rines, musical director for the Blue Network, and Leopold Spitalny, chief contractor for the networks.

The staffs of the networks have already been instructed to hire Negro musicians.

Mr. Hammond said that most openings will be in dance and salon groups. He stressed the fact that musicians who are expert in reading and those whose background and training fit them for "doubling" in a variety of types of music are most desired.

Jim-Crow Shipbuilders: In answer to the announcement of the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company of Chester, Pennsylvania, that it is preparing to employ 9,000 Negroes to work in a separate shipbuilding gang, with no white workers on the job, the N.A.A.C.P. wrote John G. Pew, company president, that separation of workers according to color "leads inevitably to misunderstanding and antagonism and frequently to differentials in working conditions." The N.A.A.C.P. also asserted that when the emergency is over, the segregation of crews would make it easy to dispense with the Negro workers.

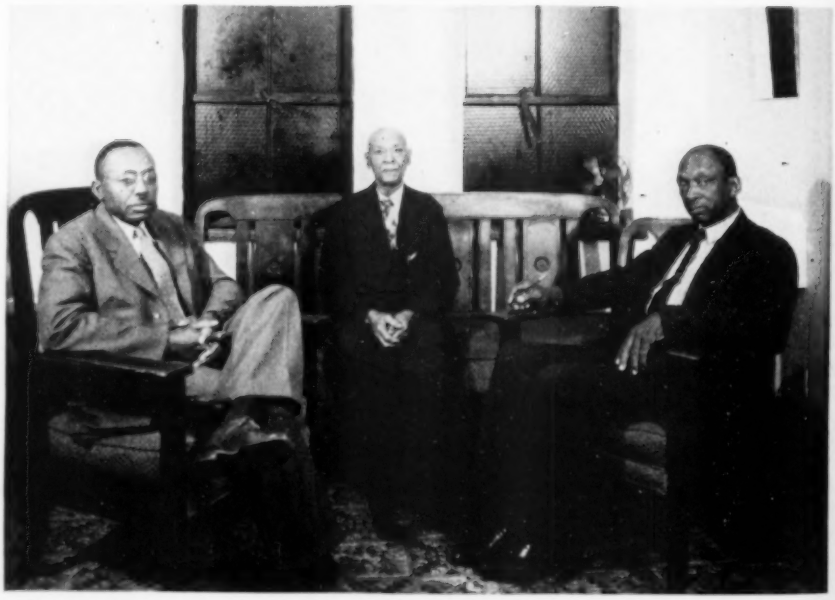
Odell Waller: As this goes to press, it has just been announced that Governor Darden has granted a stay until July 2 to Odell Waller, who was sentenced to be executed June 19 for the murder of his landlord. Virginia branches of the N. A. A. C. P. and other N. A. A. C. P. units joined in asking Governor Darden for the stay and for a commutation of the sentence to life imprisonment.

Negro Bureau: The proposal to establish a Bureau of Negro Affairs by the Federal Government to handle all problems relating to the Negro was opposed officially by the Board of Directors of the N.A.A.C.P. at its meeting June 8. The Board said it questioned "the wisdom of the establishment of any bureau as a catch-all for all the problems of the Negro in industry, government, the armed forces and in American life generally." The Board said such a bureau would tend to make the Negro a ward of the government.

South Carolina Primary: To break the lily-white Democratic primary system in South Carolina, the N.A.A.C.P. in this state launched a campaign to raise a fund of $6,000 at the third annual meeting of the State Conference of N.A.A.C.P. Branches here, June 14 and 15.

Technique for the fight to secure the right to vote for Negroes will be to urge hundreds of qualified Negroes in each locality to file for registration, enrollment in the Democratic party and to vote in the Democratic primary, the N.A.A.C.P. said.

The Charleston *News and Observer*,



The Albany, Ga., branch, numerically the largest in the state, sought 1000 members in its 1942 campaign. Above, President Charles M. Reynolds presents a check for $75 to Miss Ella J. Baker, assistant field secretary, as a contribution to the Washington bureau of the association. This amount was raised by the citizens of Albany in less than 2 hours, following Miss Baker's appeal. Below, three veterans of the Albany branch, who boast of continuous service of 20 years duration in one or another capacity. Left to right are C. W. King, member of the executive committee, J. H. Kimbrough, treasurer, and E. Spry, efficient secretary

local daily, greeted the conference Monday, June 15, with an editorial that Negroes should try to create their own party instead of seeking to break into white primary. The N.A.A.C.P.'s position will be to insist on using the election machinery already established.

Thurgood Marshall, N.A.A.C.P. special counsel who was guest speaker at the conference Monday night, said: "Nothing will steer us away from this action." James M. Hinton, Columbia, S. C., is president of the state conference.

Largest Branch: Already the largest branch in the N.A.A.C.P., with more than 6,000 members at the close of its drive in 1941, the Detroit, Michigan, chapter this year became the largest branch in the entire history of the N.A.A.C.P. when it secured 11,044 members and $12,853.25.

A breakdown of the membership secured, by classes, reveals the following items: $1 memberships—9772; $2.50—849; $5—47; $10—20; $20—1; $25—1; $50—1; $75—1; $100—1. There were 322 youth memberships secured. Total number of subscriptions to THE CRISIS, 942. The total amount sent to the New York office was $7,161.25.

The effort was under the general direction of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, national field secretary; Ernest Marshall, chairman of the drive; Dr. J. J. McClendon, branch president; and the Reverend Charles Hill, Mrs. Mildred Gross, Prince Clark, and Gloster Current as division leaders.

New Assistant Counsel: Newly appointed assistant counsel for the N.A.A.C.P., is Prentice Thomas, attorney of Louisville, Ky., who began his work in the national office of the Association, June 1. He will assist Thurgood Marshall, N.A.A.C.P. counsel.

Attorney Thomas, experienced in organization work, is a graduate of Howard University Law School, 1937. He was admitted to the Kentucky bar in 1939, and is a member of the national legal staffs of the American Civil Liberties Union, Workers' Defense League; a director of Region 13, National Bar Association.

He is also attorney for the Educational Equalization Committees of the Louisville, Ky., and Jeffersonville, Indiana, branches of the N.A.A.C.P. Locally he was counsel for the American Federation of Teachers, textile workers, truck drivers and waiters unions. Mr. Thomas is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Pickens's Services Terminated: At the June 8 meeting of the national board of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. it was unanimously voted not to grant Dean William Pickens an indefinite leave of absence for reasons "wholly unconnected" with his work with the Treasury Department; and that Dean Pickens' "status as director of branches of the N.A.A.C.P. is terminated as of June 15, 1942, the date of the expiration of his present leave of absence."

Mr. Pickens was first granted a year's leave of absence in May, 1941, to work in the Treasury Department on the sale of war bonds and stamps. His request for an indefinite leave was considered at the May and June meetings of the board of directors this year.

Decision of the N.A.A.C.P. board was largely based on Dean Pickens' letter printed May 17, commending the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch* editorial of April 26, in which statements were made accusing the N.A.A.C.P., THE CRISIS, the Pittsburgh *Courier* and the New York *Amsterdam Star-News* of

Workers in the spring membership campaign of the Rahway, N. J., branch. Seated left to right: Mrs. Geneva Moore, Mrs. Edna Smith, Mrs. Viola Samuels, Mrs. Mary Collins, Randall L. Tyus, assistant field secretary, Mrs. Irene Tyler, John Madden, Mrs. Mayme E. Shell and Mrs. Clara Tate. Standing left to right: George Clark, Thomas Shell, Mrs. Ruth Roselle, Enoch Dewitt, Lloyd Davis, Collin Nicholson and Mr. Roselle

stirring up trouble and creating "interracial tension."

The Association offered the Treasury Department cooperation in its war savings program.

Dean Pickens came to the N.A.A.C.P. in February, 1920, as associate field secretary. Later he became field secretary, and in 1933 was promoted to be director of branches. In his twenty-two years with the association he made hundreds of trips to every corner of America, and in addition traveled in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America.

U.S. Army Signal Corps

Graduating as a second lieutenant with the sixth class from Armored Force Officer Candidate School at Fort Knox, John R. Jennings, one of three colored officers to receive gold bars in the ceremony, is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Stephen G. Henry, commandant of the school. Lt. Jennings is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Jennings, Norfolk, Mass.

Branch News

Alabama: The Mobile branch, in connection with the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity conducted a symposium on the subect "The Negro and National Defense" on April 3.

California: Twelve local organizations joined with the Los Angeles branch on May 30 and 31 to hold a two day carnival and bazaar, with proceeds to go to United China Relief. Actor Allen Mowbray was master of ceremonies presenting such artists as Ethel Waters, Clarence Muse and many others. Gross receipts were $7,000. One-half of the net will go to the Los Angeles branch.

L. G. Robinson, a member of the Los Angeles chapter, addressed the Pasadena N.A.A.C.P. on Sunday, May 24. "Negro Progress Over a Nation at War" was the theme of the meeting, which was open to the public.

A Mother's Day celebration titled "The Crowning of the Queen Mother" was presented by the San Francisco branch with Mrs. Annie Bozeman committee chairman for the day. Mrs. Anna Anderson was selected queen.

Connecticut: At the regular meeting of the Bridgeport-Stratford branch Miss Hulda Brown, director of the Sterling Community House, Stratford, spoke on the "Negro Niche in American History and a Vision of Negro Development in Stratford."

Walter White spoke at a victory dinner of the Hartford chapter on April 30. Mr. White urged increased employment of Negroes in the nation's war industries.

Illinois: The Tri-city branch held its second quarterly mass meeting on Friday, May 15. The main purpose was to invite queries and discussion of such problems as housing for Negroes, industrial opportunities for colored youth, colored workers and labor unions, and others.

Michigan: The membership campaign of the Detroit branch was launched at a mass meeting on May 17, with Charles H. Mahoney, president of the Great Lakes Mutual Life Insurance company and former commissioner of the department of labor and industry, as the principal speaker. The branch is concerning itself also with the question of alleged segregation in the Sunshine Sanitarium in Detroit.

Missouri: Lindell Bagley, Lilbourn, Missouri, high school teacher, told a mass meeting sponsored by the St. Louis county chapter, May 3, that the Sikeston lynching was no sudden, unrelated outburst, but the culmination of years of racial discrimination against the Negroes in southeast Missouri.

In a meeting held May 10, under the auspices of the St. Joseph branch, Roscoe Dunjee, a national director of the N.A.A.C.P., was principal speaker. Mr. Dunjee is state president of the Oklahoma branches.

The recently organized Springfield branch had A. L. Foster, executive secretary of the Urban League of Chicago, as the speaker at the opening meeting of the membership drive, May 29. The Springfield chapter now reports a membership of more than 100 with E. Bryce McAdams as president.

New Jersey: The Atlantic City branch met May 11, to make the semi-final report on membership. It was stated that the drive had passed 230 members and that the quota would be reached. Roscoe Carroll presided at the meeting.

E. Frederic Morrow, of the national office, presented to the Burlington county branch, on Sunday, June 7, a charter from the N.A.A.C.P. Mr. Morrow was guest speaker at the mass meeting which was held at the close of the branch's membership drive.

A Youth Council of the N.A.A.C.P. was organized at the YMCA by Albert E. Hart, director of youth activities for the Atlantic City branch.

The Jersey City branch ended its prize membership drive for one thousand new members under the supervision of Mrs. Mary E. Hope. Miss Charlotte B. Crump of the New York office was the speaker for the final meeting. Matters concerning the housing situation, high bail for Negro citizens arrested, the roughing up of Charles Shulman who went to the aid of Mrs. Catherine Skipper, an expectant mother, when she was slapped by officers of the law, were all taken under advisement by the branch.

Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, and Rev. H. Beecher Jackson of the 13th Avenue Presbyterian church, were the principal speakers at the Newark branch's mass meeting, June 14, which marked the close of their membership drive. Chairman of the local drive was Dr. A. A. Phillips Madison S. Jones, Jr., of the national office, was in charge.

New York: David Adams, president of the Nassau County branch, was one of the sponsors of the committee planning an Aid-to-Russia Day observance on June 22.

The Glen Cove branch celebrated "I Am An American Day" on Sunday, May 17. Frank Crosswaith, labor leader, was the

Some of the campaign workers in the spring membership drive of the St. Paul, Minnesota, branch. Front row—left to right, Miss Junald Brown, secretary, Mrs. Mabel N. Brown, captain victory No. 1, Rev. B. N. Moore, president, Mrs. Ethel Maxwell Williams, campaign director, Richard L. Stokes, vice president, Mrs. Ora Reed. Second row—Mrs. Rose Tillotson, Miss Harriett Brown, assistant secretary, Mrs. E. Capacious, Mrs. Eva Neal, J. N. Smith. Third row—Frank Boyd, Rev. C. J. R. Nelson, C. S. Anderson, J. E. Johnson, W. B. Walker, treasurer, Dr. Norman Howell. Back row—Frederic Morrow, John Culver

principal speaker. James E. Allen, of the New York branch, members of the City Council and other citizens of Glen Cove spoke.

The Nassau county branch was asked by Mayor Herbert Mirschel to cooperate in helping to clean up "danger spots" in the Hempstead "Hill" section to prevent a repetition of the riot which occurred there May 2.

Guest speaker at the May 19 meeting of the Ithaca branch was Robert E. Treman, member of the national board of directors. Reports on the recent New York State conference of branches were read.

Frances Bryant was winner of a popularity contest and was given the title of "Miss N.A.A.C.P." at the annual dance of the Jamaica branch.

Roy Wilkins, formally presented its charter to the Mamaroneck branch on May 31.

A testimonial dinner was given in honor of Rev. Frederick A. Cullen, first president of the New York City chapter, at the time of his recent retirement from the pulpit.

The entertainment committee of the Peekskill branch presented Inez Matthews, soprano, in a concert May 15. Miss Matthews is the sister of Edward Matthews, radio and concert singer.

The Port Chester branch sponsored a popularity contest and fashion show on May 27, at the Y.M.C.A. Mrs. William Gordon, of Rye, was chairman and Miss Emily Watts, of Greenwich, Conn., was winner.

Ohio: The Dayton branch reported progress in the fight for elimination of discrimination against Negro wage earners.

Rhode Island: The Newport branch had as the principal speaker at their May meeting Mayor Herbert E. Macaulay, who explained the efforts being made to provide adequate housing facilities for colored citizens of the city.

West Virginia: The Logan branch wired the Governor of Virginia to extend clemency to Odell Waller, sentenced to death for the murder of his landlord.

Youth Council News

St. Louis, Mo.: The members of the Stowe Teachers' college chapter are now laying plans so that the group will be represented at the fourth annual student conference which will be held at Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia, October 30-November 1, 1942.

Kansas City, Mo.: The members of the Kansas City youth council participated in a radio broadcast over Station KCKN. The theme of the program was "The Progress of the Negro in Greater Kansas City." A quiz program based on Negro history was also presented by the group.

Houston, Texas: The youth council membership campaign is coming along nicely, with eighty-four names reported to date. The Houston youth council has made plans for the sending of three delegates to the Los Angeles conference.

Toledo, Ohio: The recent State Conference of NAACP youth councils in Ohio met with much success. Representatives from Cleveland, Youngstown, Cincinnati, Kent and Toledo were present. East Liverpool was represented by a delegate who attended mainly to gather information for the organization of a youth council there. Messrs. Gloster Current and Leonard Troutman, of Detroit, were the main speakers. At the present time Ohio youth councils are participating in a gigantic statewide Double "V" Campaign. Pins, buttons, stickers, etc., are being sold in an effort to raise money. A Victory mass meeting and banquet is also planned.

Winston-Salem, N. C.: During the

observance of National Negro Youth Week, the Winston-Salem youth council held an outdoor meeting at which time Rev. J. Leslie Smith gave invocation and made a few remarks. Earl Davis, president of the group, was the main speaker. A loudspeaker system was used, and the Morris Slaughter Post of the American Legion Band provided the music. A radio broadcast was held over radio station WSJS, which concluded the week's activities. Rev. Kenneth R. Williams, pastor of the First Institutional Baptist church addressed the meeting.

Flint, Mich.: One of the main projects of the Flint youth council was the collection of books for colored soldiers. Educational programs, debates and discussions have been participated in by the group as well as dances, parties and socials, to inform the public of the activities, etc., of the council.

New York, N. Y.: The Junior League youth council of Manhattan has adopted the Civilian Defense program as its basic project for the coming year. A committee has been set up to work out a program to involve and coordinate all the youth of Harlem and youth groups' activities. The immediate task of the group is the gaining of representation for youth on the executive board of the West Harlem-Riverside Defense Council, and the calling of a meeting of over 100 clubs and organizations. The purpose of this meeting will be to bring the Civilian Defense program to the organizations represented and to coordinate and centralize activities already started.

Baltimore, Md.: The newly elected officers and chairmen of the Baltimore youth council include: Ethel Logan, president; Mabel Owings, vice-president; Dorothy Wiggins, secretary; Sarah E. Wiggins, treasurer; Clifton Parago and Solomon Baylor, publicity committee; Viola Williams, entertainment committee. A fashion show and May Ball have been sponsored in an attempt to raise sufficient funds for the sending of a delegate to the Los Angeles conference.

Membership reports: Increases in membership have been noted in the following youth councils: Jacksonville, Fla., 10; Florence, S. C., 5; James Weldon Johnson, Chicago, Ill., 8; State Teachers' College, Cheyney, Pa., 18; Houston College for Negroes, Houston, Texas, 21; Dowagiac, Mich., 5; Baltimore, Md., 9; Houston, Texas, 84; Lansing, Mich., 27; Charleston, West Va., 20; Alameda County, Calif., 100.

War Savings

(*Continued from page 221*)

Montreal U.N.I.A. organization in Canada	500
Golden Link Lodge, Baltimore, Maryland	500
Queen of Sheba Chapter of Eastern Star	500
Eureka Lodge, Norfolk, Virginia, has been purchasing a $100 bond each month since July, 1941	
Puget Sound Lodge, Elks No. 109	500
Juvenile Society No. 33 G.U.O. of Wilmington, Dela	500

Judging from the response from all parts of the country to our newspaper request for information from any individual who has purchased $100 worth of bonds, or more, the investments by individuals have been very numerous. Of course, we did not reach but a small fraction of the total number through our limited newspaper notice, and only a part of those who read it, responded. Many report purchases in the thousands of dollars, from their savings, and better still from their earnings.

Universities and churches

All of the Negro universities and colleges and most of the hundreds of high schools have reported on some plan for selling bonds and stamps to students and faculty, and for payroll allotments or for individual pledges on the part of the teachers and the employees. Some of the schools have bought in five figures, one at least reaching $50,000 and others being near to that total and still going.

The leaders of our greatest churches and church conventions and conferences, Baptist, Methodist, and others, have opened their pulpits and their platforms and rostra to messages on War Savings, National Security and Patriotic participation in all our war effort. We have seen entire conferences and conventions stand up and cheer for national unity and loyalty of all our peoples. The Bishops of our Methodist churches, and the leaders of our large Baptist organizations have approved without quibble and endorsed without apologies, when the gospel of a united America has been spoken from their platforms.—And the churches are our best index of the spirit.

It is our prediction that the colored American will place a more equitable proportion of his property and his income at the disposal of the government in this war and crisis than will any other racial group in the country.

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Dewey on Democracy

Thomas E. Dewey, speaking at the Interracial Rally in New York before an audience of 20,000 persons, dramatically placed racial equality among all Americans in the forefront of the goals of the conflict with the Axis powers.

Declaring that "in winning freedom we must also win equality for all people," and that no other country has done so much fighting for freedom in so short a time, he sounded the keynote of the monster rally to put Americans of all racial origins behind the War Bond Pledge Campaign of Greater New York.

After a blistering attack on the racial prejudices displayed by the Fascist enemies, Mr. Dewey declared that Americans must sink all personal and group interests for the sake of the country's welfare.

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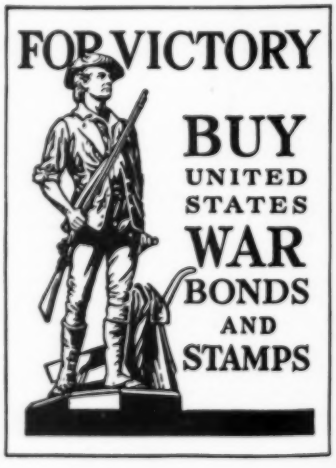

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Help your Government to put the tools of war into the hands of our soldiers by purchasing War Savings Bonds and Stamps. And remember . . . just one Bond can't lick the Axis any more than just one gun! It takes millions of Americans buying War Savings Bonds and Stamps every pay day!

Bonds cost $18.75 and up . . . and they pay you back one-third more in only 10 years! Stamps cost 10¢, 25¢, and up . . . soon total the price of a Bond if bought regularly.

Help our boys on the fighting fronts wherever they may be! Buy War Savings Bonds as an investment for yourself and your country.

Book Review

MOTHER CHURCH AND THE NEGRO

***Colored Catholics in the United States* (An investigation of Catholic activity in behalf of the Negroes in the United States and a survey of the present condition of the Colored Missions.) By John T. Gillard, S. S. J., Ph. D. Baltimore: The Josephite Press, 1941. X+ 298pp. $3.00.**

This is to my knowledge the most comprehensive survey of Negro Catholics in the United States in print. And the book has been written by a man who has already evinced considerable interest in the American Negro. Dr. Gillard is the author of *The Catholic Church and the American Negro, Christ, Color and Communism, The Negro American, Negroes Do Think,* and *More Negro Nuns.* Dr. Gillard writes, of course, as a sort of "abbreviator" of the Catholic Church, one who sets forth the orthodox Catholic view of Negro evangelization.

The Catholic Church plays a minor role in the religious life of the American Negro. There are, according to Dr. Gillard, only 296,998 Negro Catholics in the whole of the United States. That is, 2.3 per cent of the total Negro population is Catholic. Most of these Negro Catholics are found in the Archdiocese of New Orleans: 46,780 of them according to the author. Baltimore and Washington come next with Chicago and New York trailing behind. Even in the Dioceses Louisiana leads all other sections of the country. The Diocese of Lafayette has the largest number of Negro Catholics, 62,000. And strangely enough Galveston, Texas, comes second among the dioceses with 10,016 Negro Catholics. Negro Catholics, according to the author, are on the increase in the United States. Yet it is significant to note that "85 per cent of the Catholic Negroes are city dwellers, whereas half or more of all other Church members are rural, except members of the Protestant Episcopal Church who are 90 per cent urban. "Catholic congregations," our author points out, "number more males per hundred women than any other Negro denominations." In one Maryland county, "particularly St. Mary's," one finds that "75% of the Colored are Catholic."

Despite the relative liberalism of the Catholic Church in regards to color as compared with the many Protestant denominations, Catholicism makes little appeal to the American Negro. Perhaps the higher cultural level demanded of its adherents as well as the lack of a Catholic tradition among Negroes accounts for the paucity of Negro Catholics in this country. Most American Negro Catholics seem to be centered in sections with an old Catholic tradition: that is, in and around Baltimore, and in New Orleans and some of the parishes of Louisiana. "Excepting in southern Louisiana, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, the Church in the South is still small in numbers and weak in influence."

Our author claims that "the Catholic Church as an official body" has an advantage over the many Protestant sects in proselytizing Negroes because Mother Church has "a definite theory of human equality." Though true in theory, much of this equalitarianism, so far as race is concerned anyway, does not work out in practice. It is true so far as I know that no Catholic Church, even in the South, denies admission to a Negro who wants to worship within the confines of its walls. I cannot say as much for many southern Protestant denominations, for I have myself been denied

(*Continued on page* 235)

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Living Like A Half Man

By Press Hawkins

A story about a black mother and her son in the Land of Liberty

IT was the usual shabby employment agency, and against the wall several women sat on a bench, their neat work bundles and suitcases near them. They were old and young women, tall and short, fat and lean—but they were all colored. One of them was saying in a low steady voice, "He was such a good boy. And Lord, how that woman worked to put him through school!"

"He was a *good* boy—I can't believe it. And I hear they offered him some kind of airplane job at Howard."

Another woman said, "Part I can't understand, she wants him to go. She *told* him to go! Think now that he could make a little money and she could take it easy. . . . But Nellie always has been a queer one. We been neighbors since twenty-four years ago when I got married and moved into her block. She was a pretty woman then, had a fine husband, big strapping man, ready with a smile and a joke. She was sure crazy about that man."

Somebody said, "Never married again."

"Never even thought of another man. He was a hardworking good man with a job in a factory. They were both so happy when the baby came. And I'll never forget the day they told her Jim—that's her husband—had been killed in the factory. Got caught in some old machine. Never saw anything like it. For two days she didn't cry or carry on. Just sat there, holding her baby tight and saying: 'This one the factory ain't going to get, never going to do any of the dirty work, the mean work. My boy is going to be a man! A real man, doing the kind of work he *wants*—not what they jim-crow him into doing. That dangerous factory work killed my Jim. Dangerous work—so they let our men do it. Who cares if a colored man is killed or hurt? Nobody but his wife. My son, he's going to do a man's work, live the life *any* man would want, white or black.'

"Yes sir, for two days she sat there, shocked, mumbling to herself, watching over that baby every minute, like she thought something was going to happen to it."

A woman cut in with, "He was a cute baby."

"Sure was," the other woman said, continuing. "After the funeral it came out that Jim had left her near four hundred dollars insurance. He was a good man! But she moved back with her mother and started working. I remember asking her, 'Girl, with all that money, why don't you rest yourself for awhile?' And she said, 'I'm not going to touch a cent of that money. It's for my George. In fact I'm going to save and add to it, so he can have an education—so when he gets married his wife won't go near crazy having to worry about him being killed in a factory accident.'

"And that Nellie worked! Worked hard and lived cheap. George was a hard worker as he grew up, too, selling papers after school, doing odd jobs—always doing something. Smart as a whip. She was always watching over him, not spoiling him, but taking care. When he graduated high school she gave him ten dollars—as a present. Said he ought to have a little money on him now. He went out and bought her a dress with that money—and she was as proud as could be of that dress. He was a big, tall, hansome boy of seventeen now, a deep brown boy, big and strong as a man. Played football so good a college let him in for nothing just so he could play on their team. It's the truth. Used to have his picture in the paper some times, and Nellie would carry it around to show everybody. They gave him some easy job around the college—all the players had them—and when he came home for the Christmas holidays, he looked like he stepped out of a magazine. Handsomer than ever, dressed up smart and fine—real clothes—not that sharpie junk the boys wear. All the girls was crazy about him. And he gave Nellie money, near two hundred dollars he had saved."

"I sure remember that," a woman sitting on the end of the bench added. "It was a lean holiday for me and Nellie gave me ten dollars without my even asking."

"It was right after that he went in for airplanes. She expected him to be a doctor or lawyer or something, but he was mad about flying, and anyways there was as much opportunity in that as anything else."

"He was right," a thin woman said suddenly. "There's enough hungry doctors and lawyers in Harlem to prove it!"

The woman who was doing most of the talking nodded and went on. "She showed me pictures of him in a plane and I'd ask her, 'Ain't you scared he'll get into an accident?' She just said 'I pray every night for him. But if he has to die, let it be up in the clean, bright air, not in a dirty factory, his body crushed in the dirt and muck.' That's the way she is, understanding everything he does. I guess most of you here was at the party she gave when he graduated. I think the papers said he was the first colored aviation engineer."

"That's what he was," the thin woman said. "I remember cutting the piece out of the paper."

"And remember the time he took her up in a plane? Glory, Nellie couldn't talk of nothing else for weeks. Said it was like being a king, riding way up there and looking down at the earth. She knew then why he liked flying. Then there was that whole year he kept trying and couldn't get a job. No colored help wanted. They started the defense program and he thought he'd get something sure, but they wanted only white men in them planes. Then just when they started an air school at Howard and. . . .

"Shhhh! Here's Nellie!"

THE tall strong greyhaired woman walked into the office, smiled as she registered with the woman at the desk, then sat down with the other women, her handbag at her feet. She said good morning and asked if there had been any jobs and they all talked and suddenly one of the women asked, "Has he gone yet?"

"Sailed yesterday," the mother said quietly, smiling.

"Nellie, what you smiling about? Seems to me he could do something beside go away to Russia and fight them old Nazis!"

"But I urged him to go, soon as he said he was thinking about it. This is what I've raised him for."

"To go to Russia?"

Nellie shook her head. "No, but to be a man. Over there he tells me, they don't care what color a man is—it's what he can do that counts. He wants to get a chance at real flying, show what he can do, and at the same time fight those Nazis . . . those Ku Kluxers."

"But if he stayed here. . . .!"

Nellie said, "Yes, he might have got a job, in a jim-crow air school, maybe the Army would have put him in a jim-crow air division. Over there he can

U.S. Army Signal Corps

A troop of Negro cavalrymen leading the Memorial day parade in Washington, D. C.

live like a man, be what he's capable of being. When he returns, at least he'll know what it means to really live."

"If he returns," a woman whispered.

The mother shrugged. "Then he'll have died like a man, which is better than living like a half man, a second rate human." She forced a smile. "But I think he'll come back, he's very good at this flying."

"I hope so, I sure hope . . ." a woman said and stopped abruptly as the phone rang and the woman at the desk started writing on a pad. "Still I can't see why he had to go over there. . . ."

The woman at the desk, still talking on the phone, looked over at the women and nodded. The women straightened their dresses, as if they were being inspected.

". . . I can't see why he had to go. . . . Dear, I hope it's a good paying job, at least twenty dollars a month and not too many kids and laundry."

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Book Review

(Continued from page 233)

admission to white southern Protestant churches on the plea that this is "a white church."

Of colored Catholic priests in the United States there have been thirty-one. "The first Negro priest as such in the United States" was Augustus Tolton. Incidentally, it may be remarked that the first native American to be consecrated a Bishop was the Negro Francisco Xavier de Luna y Victoria, who was made Bishop of Panama in 1751. The Catholic Church also has a saint in the Negro Martin de Porres, and a great Jesuit missionary in the Mulatto Padre Antonio Vieriera.

Our author, however, stretches a point when he avers that "The difference between North American slavery and South American slavery was Catholicism." Seemingly, this is true only of Brazil. Freyre, for example, admits that Brazil is a *paiz de formação social profundamente catholica*—"a country profoundly Catholic in its social formation." Yet even here we cannot discount the much older Portuguese and Islamic tradition in regards to treatment of peoples of color. Yet the same author notes that *o islamismo ramificou-se no Brasil em seita poderosa, florescendo no escuro das senzalas*—"Islam ramified Brazil as a powerful sect, flourishing in the obscurity of the compounds." Haiti was also Catholic, yet Lucien Peytraud is forced to admit that *la plupart des maitres catholiques ne s'abstinrent pas de cruautés qu'ils commettaient eux-mêmes ou laissaient commettre à leur égard. . . .*" ("Most of the Catholic owners of slaves did not refrain from cruelties which they themselves committed or permitted to be inflicted on their behalf.") One can, of course, give the Catholics credit for putting religion above race. In respect to immigration to Brazil during the colonial period their only criterion was religious. Disease, color, social status amounted to nothing; it was only asked that an immigrant be Catholic and nothing more. By and large, one has to admit that the Catholics have a much better record in their treatment of peoples of color than the Protestant sects. This books tells in outline what they have done for the Negro in the United States.

JAMES W. IVY

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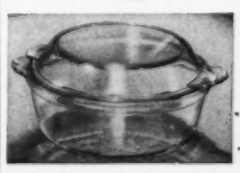

PYREX

DOUBLE DUTY

CASSEROLE

—Round; 2 quarts; utility cover.

British Empire

(*Continued from page 220*)

stony silence by the Government.

The Kenya Government has arrested and imprisoned all of the leaders of the Kikuyu people, and it has quite recently taken measures to conscript Africans to work on the plantations for the white overlords. Those who have been arrested are not extremists, nor have they been accused of subversive or anti-British activity. Today even the most moderate sections of African opinion are finding expression in outspoken frankness. Professor Z. K. Matthews, almost conservative in his outlook, writes: "Africans are not impressed when they are told that 'if the Germans win this war,' for this requires them, by implication, to continue accepting evils to which they are at present subjected. It may well be that a German victory will lead to worsening of the position of the African, but, then he is not a German subject and has no special claim upon the solicitude of the German Government. What he wants to know is, rather, whether a South African victory will lead to the betterment of his position. In all the schemes for post-war reconstruction, what sort of place will the African have in the South African, not the German, 'New Order'? It has not escaped his attention that there is a deathly silence on this point which can hardly inspire him with confidence regarding the future . . .

" . . . as a subject people, they are, frankly, not enthusiastic about participation in this war, because for them neither the native policy of the Union, nor British colonial policy, nor indeed the colonial policy of any other Power, represent a cause worth fighting for. As the present writer has said elsewhere, 'We hope that one of the results of this war will be that everywhere, and not least in South Africa, men will learn that the best way of defending freedom and democracy is to extend them during peace time to all sections of the community in the fullest measure and to remove every hindrance to the spread of these achievements of the human spirit.' "[1]

The west coast of Africa is traditionally the most loyal part of the continent, because of the less repressive native policy maintained there. Yet because of the circumstances of its development and the creation of an educated native section, it is politically the most conscious and has sharply voiced its national aspirations, which are becoming more and more aggressive, stimulated as they have been by events in the Far East, especially Congress agitation in India.

Even before the events in the Far East, West Africans were concerned with the question of their status in the post-war "democratic" New World Order. The publication of the Atlantic Charter aroused their hopes, which were particularly inflated when Mr. Attlee told a gathering of the West African Students' Union in London that there was not to be found "in the declarations which have been made on behalf of the Government in this country on the war any suggestion that the freedom and social security for which we are fighting should be denied to any of the races of mankind. We are fighting this war not just for ourselves but for all peoples."[1]

Atlantic Charter for Whites

It seemed that at last Britain had accepted the equality of races as a fundamental principle of her New Order. There was tremendous enthusiasm among the 500 million colored peoples in the empire, an enthusiasm which was very soon dashed by the statement of the Prime Minister to the House on September 9, 1941, quite shortly after his return from the Atlantic meeting. He let it be known that point 3 of the Atlantic Charter, providing for "the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live," applied only to the white peoples living under Nazi rule.

"At the Atlantic meeting," Mr. Winston Churchill said, "we had in mind, primarily, the restoration of the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the states and nations of Europe now under the Nazi yoke. . . . so that it is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in the regions and peoples which owe allegiance to the British Crown."[2]

Stripped of its verbiage, this statement made is obvious that the Tories envisaged a perpetuation of imperialism and a continuation of their domination over colonial peoples after they had got rid of their German imperialist rival. Thus the hopes of the colonial peoples were very quickly dashed and their resentment and sense of political frustration rose once more to the fore, now in proportion to the hopes which had been so falsely raised in them. *The West African Pilot*, leading West African nationalist organ, commenting upon the above statement of Mr. Churchill's found it difficult to conceive "That a British Prime Minister could utter such a statement during an unparalleled destructive war which has cost colonial peoples their material resources and man power . . . (It) is, indeed a revelation. What, now, must we expect to be our fate after the war? Must we believe in platitudes? . . . Indeed, the 'Four Freedoms' may be said to be good enough for 'the States and nations of Europe,' but when the interpretations are applied to us, 'that is quite a separate problem.' "[1]

West Africa is equally as important as East Africa, for it flanks Britain's trade route and is in close proximity to Dakar, which, in the hands of the Germans, would constitute a major threat not only to these British colonies but also to the sea communications between Africa and the New World. The loyalty of the West African natives is a vital factor in such a situation, as vital as it was to Malaya, which was lost because loyalty was not there. Loyalty of the colonial peoples can only be held by political concessions. Is Britain going to grant these, or is she going to repeat the mistakes of the Far East and then finally send a Sir Stafford Cripps to West Africa? And even then can she, at the eleventh hour, pay the only price which can save her?

Imperialism is incapable of saving itself from the trap which it creates of its own volition. Imperialism is incapable of offering freedom to its subject peoples, the only means by which it can secure their loyalty and support. To do so would be to commit hari-kari.

In an endeavour to gauge the truth of the position, *The West African Pilot*, acting for the people of Nigeria, on receiving a transmission of the Prime Minister's statement to the House of Commons that the Atlantic Charter was to be restricted to the nations of Europe, addressed to him the following cable:

"We understand you stated in the House of Commons that the Atlantic Charter is not applicable to the colored races in the colonial empire but to the 'restoration of sovereignty, self-government, and national life of States and nations of Europe.'

"Must we assume that the Deputy Premier's statement to the West African Students Union, London, that the Atlantic Charter would benefit colored races as well as the white race is misleading and unauthorized?

"Are we fighting for the security of Europe to enjoy the Four Freedoms, whilst West Africans continue to live under pre-war status?

"On behalf of the Protectorate and Colony of Nigeria, we respectfully request your clarification of the applicability of the Atlantic Charter regarding Nigeria. This will enable us to appreciate the correct bearing of 21 million Negroes in the sea of international politics."[2]

[1] *News Letter*, organ of the League of Coloured Peoples, October, 1941. Professor Matthews is a graduate of Yale University, and an LL.B. of Capetown. He is on the staff of the South African College at Fort Hare, and one of the moderate Bantu intellectuals.

[1] *Daily Herald*, August 16, 1941.
[2] Hansard, September 9, 1941.

[1] *West African Pilot*, November 5, 1941.
[2] *West African Pilot*, November 13, 1941.

Churchill Evades

Mr. Churchill's reply to this cablegram was given through the Acting Chief Secretary of the Nigerian Government, in the form of a letter reading as follows:

"As explained by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons, on September 9, 1941, President Roosevelt and the Prime Minister had primarily in mind the restoration of the sovereignty, self-government and national life to the States and nations of Europe now under Nazi rule.

"The declared policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to the people of the British Empire is already entirely in harmony with the high conception of freedom and justice which inspired the Joint Declaration, and the Prime Minister does not consider that any fresh statement of policy is called for in relation to Nigeria or West African colonies, generally.

"To suppose, however, that the statement which the Prime Minister made is incompatible with progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in Nigeria or elsewhere shows an evident misunderstanding of words and any suggestion that this empire's fight against Nazi tyranny is a fight for the freedom and security of the European race alone is suggestion which he feels confident all His Majesty's loyal subjects in Nigeria and elsewhere would unite in condemning."[1]

This is no reply to the question which West Africans, indeed Africans throughout the whole of the Dark Continent, are asking: What will be their status in the "democratic" New Order? No. Mr. Churchill has not answered the question, he has merely postponed it. Imperialism has always tried to stave off an answer to this question, but history is demanding and will continue to demand its answer.

[1] *West African Pilot*, November, 29, 1941.

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The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

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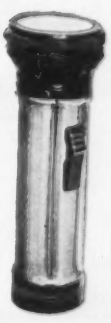

College and School News

(*Continued from page 213*)

and oldest living graduate of the college department of Atlanta University.

On the staff of the Atlanta University Summer School of the Theatre this year is Abbie Mitchell, noted Broadway actress and dramatic soprano.

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of Negro Affairs, NYA, was the commencement speaker at **West Virginia State College** on June 1. Degrees were conferred on 100 students.

Summer school will extend from June 8 through August 15.

Lawrence Neal Jones of Moundsville, W. Va., highest honor graduate, has received a Rosenwald scholarship of $400 and tuition at the University of Chicago Graduate School in History.

The College has been selected as one of the West Virginia institutions to train radio signal operators in the trade and technical division of the college. Class organization began June 2, and students receive $85 per month while training.

Thanks to its accelerated program, **Bennett College** now makes it possible for students with superior academic records to win a bachelor's degree in three and one-half years.

Valedictorian of the 1942 Class was Miss Evelyn Love of Jefferson, S. C.

The commencement speaker on June 1 was Frank L. Williams, distinguished educator of St. Louis, Mo. Degrees were conferred on 87 young women, 61 bachelors of arts and 26 bachelors of science.

Lincoln University (Mo.) dedicated its new Journalism building on June 7. The address to the graduating classes was delivered by Dr. F. L. McCluer, President of Westminster College, Fulton, Mo.

Miss Dorothy Freeman a Lincoln U. alumna has been appointed Assistant Law Librarian in the School of Law. She is a native St. Louisan.

On May 25 the commencement address at **Shaw University** was delivered by Dr. Ryland Knight, pastor of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

Shaw's summer school opened June 8 and will close August 21.

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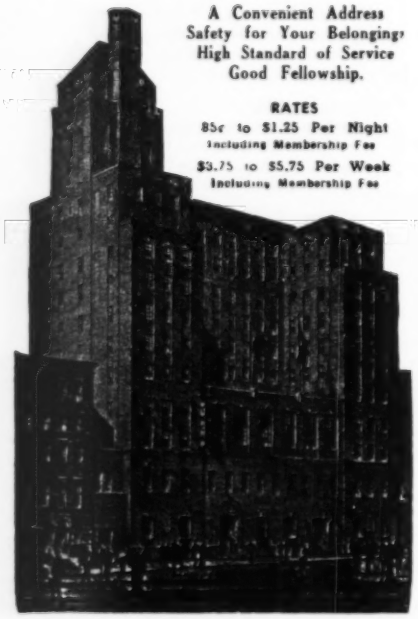

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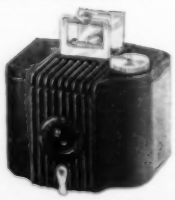

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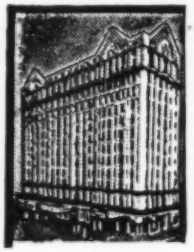

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